

Beko, Michele

From: Sophia Williams (Mechanicsburg) <SOPHIA_WILLIAMS1@GBTPA.COM>
Sent: Tuesday, July 22, 2025 11:59 AM
To: Beko, Michele
Subject: RE: Final Demand for Relief – Whistleblower Retaliation, Civil-Rights Abuses & Tortious Interference Final One-Time Settlement Offer 002653-004828-GD-01 KNAPP

Warning: Unusual sender <sophia_williams1@gbtpa.com>
You don't usually receive emails from this address. Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

Retal
ORC 149-43 A1V
Attorney client privilege

Sophia Williams | Senior Resolution Manager | Gallagher Bassett
Reporting Branch: Public Sector (291) **Office Location:** Rolling Meadows, Illinois
Mailing Address: PO Box 2934, Clinton, IA 52733-2934
D: 724-261-3360 | **F:** 724-836-8684
E: Sophia_Williams1@gbtpa.com
CA - Organizational license # 2731012
Alternate Point of Contact: Scott_Nielsen@gbtpa.com 763-416-8938

From: Beko, Michele <Michele_Beko@cityoflorain.org>
Sent: Tuesday, July 22, 2025 10:26 AM
To: Sophia Williams (Mechanicsburg) <SOPHIA_WILLIAMS1@GBTPA.COM>
Subject: RE: Final Demand for Relief – Whistleblower Retaliation, Civil-Rights Abuses & Tortious Interference Final One-Time Settlement Offer

Retal
ORC 149-43 A1V
ATTY client priv.

From: Sophia Williams (Mechanicsburg) <SOPHIA_WILLIAMS1@GBTPA.COM>
Sent: Tuesday, July 22, 2025 11:13 AM
To: Beko, Michele <Michele_Beko@cityoflorain.org>
Subject: RE: Final Demand for Relief – Whistleblower Retaliation, Civil-Rights Abuses & Tortious Interference Final One-Time Settlement Offer

External sender <sophia_williams1@gbtpa.com>
Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

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Reporting Branch: Public Sector (291) **Office Location:** Rolling Meadows, Illinois

Mailing Address: PO Box 2934, Clinton, IA 52733-2934

D: 724-261-3360 | **F:** 724-836-8684

E: Sophia_Williams1@gbtpa.com

CA - Organizational license # 2731012

Alternate Point of Contact: Scott_Nielsen@gbtpa.com 763-416-8938

From: Beko, Michele <Michele_Beko@cityoflorain.org>

Sent: Tuesday, July 22, 2025 10:05 AM

To: Sophia Williams (Mechanicsburg) <SOPHIA_WILLIAMS1@GBTPA.COM>

Subject: FW: Final Demand for Relief – Whistleblower Retaliation, Civil-Rights Abuses & Tortious Interference Final One-Time Settlement Offer

Redacted

ORC 149.43 A IV

Attorney client privilege

From: LaVeck, Joseph <Joseph_LaVeck@cityoflorain.org>

Sent: Monday, July 14, 2025 9:53 AM

To: Bradley, Jack <Jack_Bradley@cityoflorain.org>; Carrion, Rey <Rey_Carrion@cityoflorain.org>; Soto, Rick <Rick_Soto@cityoflorain.org>

Cc: Beko, Michele <Michele_Beko@cityoflorain.org>

Subject: FW: Final Demand for Relief – Whistleblower Retaliation, Civil-Rights Abuses & Tortious Interference Final One-Time Settlement Offer

Joseph T. LaVeck, Esq
Chief Asst. Law Director & Police Legal Advisor
200 W. Erie Avenue, 3rd Floor
Lorain, Ohio 44052
joseph_laveck@cityoflorain.org

Beko, Michele

From: Jennifer Woods (Rolling Meadows) <Jennifer_Woods@gbtpa.com>
Sent: Friday, July 11, 2025 3:19 PM
To: Joseph_laveck@cityoflorain.org
Subject: Loss Report Number: 002653-002653004828 / Aaron Knapp / Date of Loss: 07/07/2025

Warning: Unusual sender <jennifer_woods@gbtpa.com>
You don't usually receive emails from this address. Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

Redacted

ORC 149-43 A1v

Attorney client privilege

Jennifer Woods | Resolution Manager – Transitional Services Team | Gallagher Bassett Services
CA License Number: 2731012
Reporting Branch: TST- Branch 287
Mailing Address: PO Box 2934, Clinton, IA 52733-2934
D: 630-282-1406 | **F:** 630-932-4223
E: Jennifer_Woods@gbtpa.com
Alternate Point of Contact: Scott Nielsen @ scott_nielsen@gbtpa.com or 763-416-8938

If you wish to share a compliment or concern about the service I have provided, please email
GB.ServiceExcellence@gbtpa.com

Beko, Michele

From: Dull, Breanna <Breanna_Dull@cityoflorain.org>
Sent: Thursday, June 26, 2025 9:14 AM
To: Zaleski, Don
Subject: Court of Claims 2025-00524PQ
Attachments: 4.14.25-Records Request (Initial Request) #23-25.pdf; 4.14 Response-A. Arroyo.pdf; 4.15 Response-M.Partin.pdf; 4.14 Minutes.pdf; 4.15.25 Response.pdf; 4.21.25 Response.pdf; 4.24.25 Response.pdf; 5.8.25 Response 1.pdf; 5.8.25 Response 2.pdf; 5.8.25 Response 3.pdf; AG Website.pdf

Re Jactel

ORC 149.43 A1V

Attorney client privilege

Breanna Dull, CMC
Clerk of Lorain City Council
200 West Erie Avenue
Lorain, Ohio 44052

440.204.2050
440.204.2521 fax

Beko, Michele

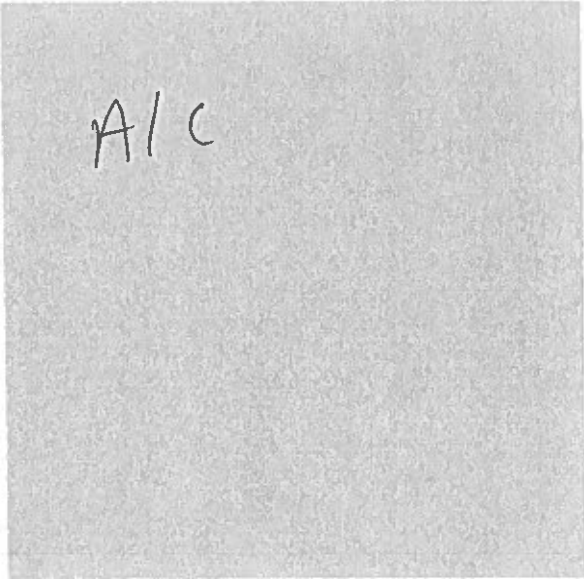
From: Beko, Michele <Michele_Beko@cityoflorain.org>
Sent: Monday, July 7, 2025 2:29 PM
To: 'percclaims@tnwinc.com'
Cc: LaVeck, Joseph
Attachments: Fwd: Final Demand for Relief - Whistleblower Retaliation, Civil-Rights Abuses & Tortious Interference Final One-Time Settlement Offer

Rejected

ORC 149.43 A 1 v

Attorney client privilege

Michele T. Beko
Administrative Asst/Office Manager
Lorain Law Director's Office
200 West Erie Avenue, 3rd floor
Lorain, OH 44052
440.204.2250
Michele_beko@cityoflorain.org



A/C

Beko, Michele

From: Dimacchia, Tony <tony_dimacchia@cityoflorain.org>
Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2025 9:05 PM
To: Carrion, Rey
Cc: Bradley, Jack; City Council Mail Group; Riley, Patrick
Subject: Re: In regards to McCann and Claim.

Thank goodness! And thank you for confirming that Rey.

Tony Dimacchia
Lorain City Councilman at Large
City of Lorain
440.258.4088

Re: Robert
ORC 149.43 A1v
Att client priv

Begin forwarded message:

From: Aaron Knapp <A4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>
Date: July 12, 2025 at 3:24:14 PM EDT
To: Jennifer Woods <Jennifer_Woods@gbtpa.com>, City Council Mail Group <CityCouncilMailGroup@cityoflorain.org>, "Robert J. Gargas" <rjgargas@gmail.com>, Garon Petty

<onelung2014@gmail.com>, "Bradley, Jack"
<Jack_Bradley@cityoflorain.org>, "Carrion, Rey"
<Rey_Carrion@cityoflorain.org>, Mike Mason
<Mike.Mason@woio.com>, Noelle Williams
<noelle.williams@woio.com>, Lorain daily
<erik@loraindaily.com>, Clevescene
<news@clevescene.com>, David Yost AG
<AGOCARES@ohioago.gov>, Sheriff Jack Hall
<jhall@loraincountysheriff.com>, Major Steven Scharschmidt
<SScharschmidt@lcdtf.com>, Fox <tips@fox8.com>, Mike
Massie <MMASSIE@lcdtf.com>, "LaVeck, Joseph"
<Joseph_LaVeck@cityoflorain.org>, Brian Ames
<bmames00@gmail.com>, "Morris, Jacob"
<Jacob_Morris@cityoflorain.org>, "Robert J. Gargasz"
<robertgargasz@gmail.com>, Sherry Glass
<Sherry.Glass@lcfct.org>, Clevescene
<news@clevescene.com>, newsdesk@wews.com,
Brian.Ring@ethics.ohio.gov, Andrew Geronimo JD
<andrew.geronimo@case.edu>
Subject: In regards to McCann and Claim.

External sender <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>
Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

To Mayor Bradley, Mr. Carrion, Mr. LaVeck,
Members of City Council, and all involved,

I am writing to acknowledge that the City of Lorain has finally taken the correct step by submitting the \$450,000 settlement claim to its insurance carrier. While this should never have taken over two years—and could have been resolved with a simple handshake and an apology when first offered—I do appreciate that the matter is at last being addressed.

Let me be absolutely clear: this entire situation was completely avoidable. After I initially offered to settle for \$50,000, the City chose instead a path of delay, denial, and deflection. Despite my numerous emails and repeated attempts to engage with Mayor Bradley, Joseph LaVeck, Rey Carrion, and others,

my concerns were repeatedly ignored or dismissed without proper consideration. These officials systematically blew me off, refusing to address the issue in good faith.

I repeatedly raised concerns that Mayor Bradley, Joseph LaVeck, Rey Carrion, and others were actively colluding to suppress this issue. The sham investigation led by Mr. Carrion confirmed this, revealing a clear intent to shield misconduct rather than expose it.

Despite numerous warnings that such actions violated ethical obligations and likely breached your oaths of office, those involved persisted in this course. Now, only after incontrovertible evidence of Chief McCann's criminal conduct has surfaced, is the City forced to submit a claim at nine times my original offer—an outcome that could have been avoided altogether.

I will be contacting the insurance carrier directly to ensure they are fully apprised not only of the facts of this case but also of the obstructive and unethical behavior demonstrated by certain officials throughout this process.

Furthermore, I want to highlight that the only Council member who appears exempt from these allegations is Angel Arroyo, who replaced Antonio Baez—an individual who, based on available evidence, was unlawfully occupying office at the time. However, Mr. Arroyo has yet to complete the mandatory Sunshine Law training required by Rule 41 and Ohio state law. This compliance failure is a serious issue that demands immediate rectification.

Given the full scope of these facts, I strongly urge any officials involved in these actions to self-report to the Ohio Ethics Commission. Your conduct constitutes a clear violation of the public trust and your sworn duty to uphold the law. Should you fail to do so promptly, I will proceed with filing the appropriate complaints myself.

Sincerely,

Aaron Christopher Knapp, LSW, CDCA(p), BSSW

Beko, Michele

From: Dimacchia, Tony <tony_dimacchia@cityoflorain.org>
Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2025 8:34 PM
To: Carrion, Rey; Bradley, Jack; City Council Mail Group; Riley, Patrick
Subject: Fwd: In regards to McCann and Claim.

Re: Jantel
ORC 149.43 A1V
ATTY client priv.

Begin forwarded message:

From: Aaron Knapp <A4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>
Date: July 12, 2025 at 3:24:14 PM EDT
To: Jennifer Woods <Jennifer_Woods@gbtpa.com>, City Council Mail Group <CityCouncilMailGroup@cityoflorain.org>, "Robert J. Gargas" <rjgargas@gmail.com>, Garon Petty <onelung2014@gmail.com>, "Bradley, Jack" <Jack_Bradley@cityoflorain.org>, "Carrion, Rey" <Rey_Carrion@cityoflorain.org>, Mike Mason <Mike.Mason@woio.com>, Noelle Williams <noelle.williams@woio.com>, Lorain daily <erik@loraindaily.com>, Clevescene <news@clevescene.com>, David Yost AG <AGOCARES@ohioago.gov>, Sheriff Jack Hall <jhall@loraincountysheriff.com>, Major Steven Scharschmidt <SScharschmidt@lcdtf.com>, Fox <tips@fox8.com>, Mike Massie <MMASSIE@lcdtf.com>, "LaVeck, Joseph" <Joseph_LaVeck@cityoflorain.org>, Brian Ames <bmames00@gmail.com>, "Morris, Jacob" <Jacob_Morris@cityoflorain.org>, "Robert J. Gargas" <robertgargas@gmail.com>, Sherry Glass <Sherry.Glass@lcfct.org>, Clevescene <news@clevescene.com>, newsdesk@wews.com, Brian.Ring@ethics.ohio.gov, Andrew Geronimo JD <andrew.geronimo@case.edu>
Subject: In regards to McCann and Claim.

External sender <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>
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To Mayor Bradley, Mr. Carrion, Mr. LaVeck, Members of City Council, and all involved,

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Given the full scope of these facts, I strongly urge any officials involved in these actions to self-report to the Ohio Ethics Commission. Your conduct constitutes a clear violation of the public trust and your sworn duty to uphold the law. Should you fail to do so promptly, I will proceed with filing the appropriate complaints myself.

Sincerely,

Aaron Christopher Knapp, LSW, CDCA(p), BSSW

Beko, Michele

From: Jennifer Woods (Rolling Meadows) <Jennifer_Woods@gbtpa.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 8, 2025 7:40 PM
To: Michele_beko@cityoflorain.org
Subject: Loss# 002653-002653004828 / Aaron Knapp / Date of Loss: 07/07/2025

Warning: Unusual sender <jennifer_woods@gbtpa.com>

You don't usually receive emails from this address. Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

*Re: Inactive
ORC 14-9-43 ALV
ATTY client priv.*

Jennifer Woods | Resolution Manager – Transitional Services Team | Gallagher Bassett Services
CA License Number: 2731012
Reporting Branch: TST- Branch 287
Mailing Address: PO Box 2934, Clinton, IA 52733-2934
D: 630-282-1406 | **F:** 630-932-4223
E: Jennifer_Woods@gbtpa.com
Alternate Point of Contact: Scott Nielsen @ scott_nielsen@gbtpa.com or 763-416-8938

If you wish to share a compliment or concern about the service I have provided, please email GB.ServiceExcellence@gbtpa.com

Beko, Michele

From: Beko, Michele <Michele_Beko@cityoflorain.org>
Sent: Wednesday, July 9, 2025 11:08 AM
To: Jennifer Woods (Rolling Meadows)
Cc: LaVeck, Joseph
Subject: RE: Loss# 002653-002653004828 / Aaron Knapp / Date of Loss: 07/07/2025

Rebukel
one 149.43 A 1v
ATTY client priv

Michele T. Beko
Administrative Asst/Office Manager
Lorain Law Director's Office
200 West Erie Avenue, 3rd floor
Lorain, OH 44052
440.204.2250
Michele_beko@cityoflorain.org

From: Jennifer Woods (Rolling Meadows) <Jennifer_Woods@gbtpa.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 8, 2025 7:40 PM
To: Beko, Michele <Michele_Beko@cityoflorain.org>
Subject: Loss# 002653-002653004828 / Aaron Knapp / Date of Loss: 07/07/2025

Warning: Unusual sender <jennifer_woods@gbtpa.com>
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Rebukel
one 149.43 A 1v
ATTY client priv

Jennifer Woods | Resolution Manager – Transitional Services Team | Gallagher Bassett Services
CA License Number: 2731012
Reporting Branch: TST- Branch 287
Mailing Address: PO Box 2934, Clinton, IA 52733-2934
D: 630-282-1406 | F: 630-932-4223
E: Jennifer.Woods@gbtpa.com
Alternate Point of Contact: Scott Nielsen @ scott_nielsen@gbtpa.com or 763-416-8938

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Beko, Michele

From: Sophia Williams (Mechanicsburg) <SOPHIA_WILLIAMS1@GBTPA.COM>
Sent: Tuesday, July 22, 2025 11:13 AM
To: Beko, Michele
Subject: RE: Final Demand for Relief – Whistleblower Retaliation, Civil-Rights Abuses & Tortious Interference Final One-Time Settlement Offer

External sender <sophia_williams1@gbtpa.com>

Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

Rejected
OK 149-43 ALV
ATTN client priv

Sophia Williams | Senior Resolution Manager | Gallagher Bassett

Reporting Branch: Public Sector (291) **Office Location:** Rolling Meadows, Illinois

Mailing Address: PO Box 2934, Clinton, IA 52733-2934

D: 724-261-3360 | **F:** 724-836-8684

E: Sophia_Williams1@gbtpa.com

CA - Organizational license # 2731012

Alternate Point of Contact: Scott_Nielsen@gbtpa.com 763-416-8938

From: Beko, Michele <Michele_Beko@cityoflorain.org>

Sent: Tuesday, July 22, 2025 10:05 AM

To: Sophia Williams (Mechanicsburg) <SOPHIA_WILLIAMS1@GBTPA.COM>

Subject: FW: Final Demand for Relief – Whistleblower Retaliation, Civil-Rights Abuses & Tortious Interference Final One-Time Settlement Offer

Rejected
OK 149-43 ALV
ATTN client priv

From: LaVeck, Joseph <Joseph_LaVeck@cityoflorain.org>

Sent: Monday, July 14, 2025 9:53 AM

To: Bradley, Jack <Jack_Bradley@cityoflorain.org>; Carrion, Rey <Rey_Carrion@cityoflorain.org>; Soto, Rick

<Rick_Soto@cityoflorain.org>

Cc: Beko, Michele <Michele_Beko@cityoflorain.org>

Subject: FW: Final Demand for Relief – Whistleblower Retaliation, Civil-Rights Abuses & Tortious Interference Final One-Time Settlement Offer

Re: LaVeck
ORC 149.43 A 1 v
ATTY client priv

From: Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>

Sent: Friday, July 11, 2025 10:20 AM

To: LaVeck, Joseph <Joseph_LaVeck@cityoflorain.org>

Subject: Re: Final Demand for Relief – Whistleblower Retaliation, Civil-Rights Abuses & Tortious Interference Final One-Time Settlement Offer

External sender <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>

Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

Dear Mr. LaVeck, Mayor Bradley, and All Concerned Parties,

This message serves as a final follow-up regarding my pending claim and the City of Lorain's corresponding legal obligations. As previously stated, tomorrow marks the deadline for a substantive response.

To date, I have received only confirmation that the matter was forwarded to the City's insurer. While I acknowledge that step, it does not satisfy the City's independent obligations under Ohio law and federal civil rights statutes—including the duty to engage in meaningful evaluation and timely response.

Should this deadline pass without further action or engagement, I will proceed accordingly and escalate the matter through all appropriate legal, administrative, and public channels.

This notice is provided in good faith to offer the City a final opportunity to respond prior to that next phase. Again, this is not a request for a favor, but a formal request for remedy under clearly established legal protections.

Respectfully,

Aaron C. Knapp, BSSW, LSW, CDCA

Disabled Veteran | Social Worker | Whistleblower

a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com | (216) 659-9899

Aaron Christopher Knapp, LSW, CDCA(p), BSSW

NOTICE: THIS ELECTRONIC MESSAGE TRANSMISSION CONTAINS INFORMATION WHICH MAY BE CONFIDENTIAL OR PRIVILEGED. THE INFORMATION IS INTENDED ONLY FOR THE USE OF THE INDIVIDUAL(S) OR ENTITY(IES) NAMED ABOVE. IF YOU ARE NOT THE INTENDED RECIPIENT, PLEASE BE

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On Jul 7, 2025, at 15:38, LaVeck, Joseph <Joseph_LaVeck@cityoflorain.org> wrote:

Mr. Knapp:

Your demand has been forwarded to the City's insurer and a claim has been made. Someone will be in contact with you once reviewed.

Thank you.

Best Regards,

Joseph T. LaVeck, Esq

Chief Asst. Law Director & Police Legal Advisor

200 W. Erie Avenue, 3rd Floor

Lorain, Ohio 44052

joseph_laveck@cityoflorain.org

From: Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>

Sent: Sunday, July 6, 2025 12:15 PM

To: Bradley, Jack <Jack_Bradley@cityoflorain.org>

Cc: Robert J. Gargasz <rjgargasz@gmail.com>; Carrion, Rey <Rey_Carrion@cityoflorain.org>; Failing, Mike <Mike_Failing@cityoflorain.org>; lcp@lcprosecutor.org; trothm@wingspan.org; City Council Mail Group <CityCouncilMailGroup@cityoflorain.org>; Mike Mason <Mike.Mason@woio.com>; Jonathan Schuppe <Jonathan.Schuppe@nbcuni.com>; Noelle Williams <Noelle.Williams@woio.com>; Lorain Daily <erik@loraindaily.com>; David Yost AG <AGOCARES@ohioago.gov>; ethics@ethics.ohio.gov; paul.nick@ethics.ohio.gov; tips@wews.com; Sherry Glass <Sherry.Glass@lcft.org>; Sheriff Jack Hall <jhall@loraincountysheriff.com>; senseicobrakai@protonmail.com; Major Steven Scharschmidt <SScharschmidt@lcdtf.com>; Mike Massie <MMASSIE@lcdtf.com>; Clevescene News <news@clevescene.com>; LaVeck, Joseph <Joseph_LaVeck@cityoflorain.org>; lbischoff@gannett.com; jonathan.walsh@wews.com; Scott.Noll@wews.com; JCaniglia@plaind.com

Subject: Re: Final Demand for Relief – Whistleblower Retaliation, Civil-Rights Abuses & Tortious Interference Final One-Time Settlement Offer

External sender <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>

Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

Mayor Bradley and ALL Concerned Parties,

This will serve as a formal reminder of the City of Lorain's continuing legal obligations in matters involving insurance claims, civil rights violations, and retaliation allegations.

While I acknowledge that the City may be coordinating with legal counsel or insurers, such coordination does not negate the City's independent obligations under state and federal law. These include, but are not limited to:

- **Timely Reporting & Good-Faith Review:** As you are aware, most municipal insurance policies require prompt notification of claims and good-faith consideration of settlement offers—especially those within policy limits—to protect the insured from excess judgments. Undue delay or categorical denials may constitute bad-faith conduct.
- **Cooperation Obligations:** The City, as the insured, has an ongoing duty to cooperate with its insurance carrier and to evaluate reasonable offers, rather than summarily reject them or disregard documented evidence.
- **Constitutional & Statutory Duties:** My right to petition public officials on matters of public concern—including civil rights violations, whistleblower retaliation, and disability discrimination—is firmly protected under the First Amendment and federal whistleblower statutes. Attempting to insulate public officials from direct accountability through blanket denials or silence does not comport with constitutional norms or public service ethics.
- **Ohio-Specific Statutes:** Under Ohio law, designated officials—such as a Director of Law—may hold settlement authority within certain thresholds. However, refusal to engage or document a legitimate settlement negotiation may raise serious concerns under both public accountability laws and prohibited insurance practices outlined by the Ohio Department of Insurance.

To be clear: I am not asking for a favor. I am documenting an official request for remedy that remains viable but is time-sensitive. If the City believes this matter should be handled exclusively through counsel, I am fully prepared to proceed accordingly, but I will not accept silence, evasion, or procedural deflection as a substitute for substantive response.

Govern yourselves accordingly.

Respectfully,

Aaron C. Knapp, BSSW, LSW, CDCA

Disabled Veteran | Social Worker | Whistleblower

a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com | (216) 659-9899

Beko, Michele

From: Melanie Greening <Melanie_Greening@gbtpa.com>
Sent: Monday, August 11, 2025 4:03 PM
To: joseph_laveck@cityoflorain.org
Subject: Claim No.: 002653-004828-GD-01 / Claimant: Aaron Knapp / DOL: ~ 7/14/2023

External sender <melanie_greening@gbtpa.com>

Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

*Related
ORC 149.43 A 1 C
App client priv*

Melanie Greening | Senior Resolution Manager | Gallagher Bassett

Gallagher Bassett CA License Number: 2731012

Reporting Branch: Public Sector Practice (291) | Office Location: Rolling Meadows, Illinois

Mailing Address: PO Box 2934, Clinton, IA 52733-2934

D: 763 416-8943 | F: 763 416-8979

E: Melanie_Greening@gbtpa.com

Alternate Point of Contact: Scott_Nielsen@gbtpa.com

Gallagher Bassett is committed to providing exceptional service. If you wish to share a compliment or comment about the service I have provided, please email GB.ServiceExcellence@gbtpa.com

Beko, Michele

From: Bowles, Scott <Scott_Bowles@cityoflorain.org>
Sent: Wednesday, August 20, 2025 10:29 AM
To: Comer, David
Subject: Public Records request search terms

Good morning,

I am working on a public records request. In fulfilling this request could you please compile any "emails, internal communication, and documents" with the following search terms:

*Redacted
ORC 149.43 A1 ✓
ATTY client priv*

Scott Bowles
Assistant Prosecutor
City of Lorain Law Department
(440) 204-2250

Beko, Michele

From: Failing, Mike <Mike_Failing@cityoflorain.org>
Sent: Wednesday, May 28, 2025 1:22 PM
To: LaVeck, Joseph
Subject: FW: False Statements

From: Morris, Jacob <Jacob_Morris@cityoflorain.org>
Sent: Wednesday, May 28, 2025 12:41 PM
To: Failing, Mike <Mike_Failing@cityoflorain.org>
Subject: Fw: False Statements

*Redacted
one 149-43 A LV
ATTN client priv*

[x]

From: Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 28, 2025 12:34 PM
To: Morris, Jacob <Jacob_Morris@cityoflorain.org>; Robert J. Gargas <rjgargas@gmail.com>; City Council Mail Group <CityCouncilMailGroup@cityoflorain.org>; Garon Petty <onelung2014@gmail.com>
Cc: Lorain_Records <lorain_records@lorain.boe.ohio.gov>
Subject: Re: False Statements

External sender <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>
Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

I am giving my 3 days notice of intent to file wit court of claims. I want every message between James McCann and Tia Hilton on any work device and any work related on personal devices.

Aaron Christopher Knapp, BSSW, LSW, CDCA
NASW Member ID: 886836612

NOTICE: THIS ELECTRONIC MESSAGE TRANSMISSION CONTAINS INFORMATION WHICH MAY BE CONFIDENTIAL OR PRIVILEGED. THE INFORMATION IS INTENDED ONLY FOR THE USE OF THE INDIVIDUAL(S) OR ENTITY(IES) NAMED ABOVE. IF YOU ARE NOT THE INTENDED RECIPIENT, PLEASE BE AWARE THAT ANY DISCLOSURE, COPYING, DISTRIBUTION, OR USE OF THE CONTENTS OF THIS INFORMATION IS PROHIBITED. IF YOU HAVE RECEIVED THIS ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION IN ERROR, PLEASE IMMEDIATELY NOTIFY THE SENDER AND DELETE THE COPY YOU RECEIVED.

On Thursday, April 17, 2025 at 08:30 51 AM EDT, Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com> wrote:

Chief James McCann is listed in a sheriff report as having regurgitated and repeated lies about heresy statements made by Jon Morrow to deputies about me. I want him charged.

Since the Oberlin prosecutors has refused charges on me and Hilton was the driving force, McCanns involved by admission, and Hilton has filed a PO.

I have all the proof this never happened, Morrow lied, and I hope he recorded the call, I record a lot of conversations.

So now your chief has participated again in ongoing harassment against me. I want a report against Morrow as well as McCann and copies of any communications McCann has had with Hilton in regards to Knapp on any phone, computer, or device.

You people are so screwed. This is the last straw. I have so much evidence on all of you.

I have spoken to Morrow since 3/27 so his statements are false and McCann is Bringing the 1.66 gpa big brain and believed then.

You guys are so screwed.

Give me my records or we go to court of claims.

I will be publishing the report showing how A Journal reporter gave up sources as well as shared lies to the police. Great job Heather! Great Job Jon! Great Job McCann! Great Job Lorain!

I want every message between Jane's McCan and Tia Hilton on any work device and any work related on personal devices.

You have 10 days.

Aaron Christopher Knapp, citizen

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Beko, Michele

From: Beko, Michele <Michele_Beko@cityoflorain.org>
Sent: Tuesday, July 29, 2025 12:41 PM
To: WOODS_JENNIFER1@GBTPA.COM
Subject: FW: 2nd Batch CLAIM NO. 002653-00428-GD-01 KNAPP
Attachments: Letter to Board.pdf; Carrion Investigation.pdf; Knapp email and Chief McCann response.pdf; Knapp email forward to Lt Morris.pdf; Knapp email with attachment.pdf; Aaron Knapp Public Records Request - Social Workers BoardEmails.pdf; To Chief Jim McCann.pdf; Complete Report with Exhibits_1.pdf

Rebekah
OAC 149.43 A1V
ATT client priv

Michele T. Beko
Administrative Asst/Office Manager
Lorain Law Director's Office
200 West Erie Avenue, 3rd floor
Lorain, OH 44052
440.204.2250
Michele_beko@cityoflorain.org

From: LaVeck, Joseph <Joseph_LaVeck@cityoflorain.org>
Sent: Tuesday, July 29, 2025 11:32 AM
To: Beko, Michele <Michele_Beko@cityoflorain.org>
Subject: FW: 2nd Batch

Rebekah
OAC 149.43 A1V
ATT client priv

Joseph T. LaVeck, Esq
Chief Asst. Law Director & Police Legal Advisor
200 W. Erie Avenue, 3rd Floor
Lorain, Ohio 44052
joseph_laveck@cityoflorain.org

From: Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 29, 2025 10:59 AM
To: Mike Mason <Mike.Mason@woio.com>; Mike Massie <MMASSIE@lcdtf.com>; Failing, Mike <Mike_Failing@cityoflorain.org>; Lorain daily <erik@loraindaily.com>; City Council Mail Group <CityCouncilMailGroup@cityoflorain.org>; Bradley, Jack <Jack_Bradley@cityoflorain.org>; Carrion, Rey <Rey_Carrion@cityoflorain.org>; Clevescene <news@clevescene.com>; Garon Petty <onelung2014@gmail.com>; Noelle Williams <Noelle.Williams@woio.com>; Robert J. Gargas <rjgargas@gmail.com>; Fox <tips@fox8.com>; David Yost AG

<AGOCARES@ohioago.gov>; Brian Ames <bmames00@gmail.com>; LaVeck, Joseph <Joseph_LaVeck@cityoflorain.org>; Sheriff Jack Hall <jhall@loraincountysheriff.com>; Major Steven Scharschmidt <SScharschmidt@lcdtf.com>; Morris, Jacob <Jacob_Morris@cityoflorain.org>; Dull, Breanna <Breanna_Dull@cityoflorain.org>; Arroyo, Angel <Angel_Arroyo@cityoflorain.org>; Riley, Patrick <Patrick_Riley@cityoflorain.org>; Sherry Glass <Sherry.Glass@lcfct.org>; Robert J. Gargasz <robertgargasz@gmail.com>; BlumhagenJ@wingspancg.org
Subject: Fwd: 2nd Batch

Warning: Unusual link

This message contains an unusual link, which may lead to a malicious site. Confirm the message is safe before clicking any links.

I hope this message finds you well.

I am writing to formally share a significant body of information and correspondence that I believe constitutes key evidence of serious misconduct—potentially criminal—involving James McCann. The attached communications and records relate to actions that, in my view, demonstrate abuse of authority, retaliation, and potential violations of Ohio’s Sunshine Laws and other statutes.

This includes:

- Evidence of public records violations and refusal to comply with lawful requests
- Retaliatory behavior tied to my professional employment
- Allegations involving improper influence on a nonprofit agency funded by state and federal resources
- A documented pattern of obstruction and cover-up efforts by the City of Lorain

These documents and communications form part of a larger whistleblower narrative that I believe deserves formal review and public transparency. I am currently working with legal counsel and a journalist who has agreed to take the story once their current queue is cleared.

I am prepared to provide additional context and supporting documentation upon request, and I am hopeful that this information will be taken seriously and reviewed through the appropriate channels.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Aaron Christopher Knapp, LSW, CDCA(p),BSSW

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Begin forwarded message:

From: Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>
Date: July 14, 2025 at 18:24:34 EDT
To: Jennifer Woods <Jennifer_Woods@gbtpa.com>
Subject: 2nd Batch

Statement: Why a Fair Settlement at \$450,000 Serves Everyone's Best Interests

At this stage, the emails and public records reveal **significant gaps, inconsistencies, and withheld communications** concerning the decision to file charges—causing real reputational, emotional, and financial harm.

It's also worth noting that **Chief James McCann of Lorain was placed on paid administrative leave on April 25, 2025**, amid a formal **misconduct investigation** by the Lorain County Sheriff's Office that uncovered unprofessional behavior, including making veiled threats, comments about wishing for a "dirty cop," and other retaliatory actions [Lorain Police Department+12WKYC+12Newsradio WTAM 1100+12](#). Then, **on June 23, 2025**, McCann abruptly announced his **irrevocable retirement effective September 15, 2025**, following confirmation of those inappropriate statements [huroninsider.com](#). This strongly suggests the City is acutely aware of leadership misconduct and its growing liability.

Moreover, the City—and its insurer—have a **well-documented history of early settlements** in similar high-risk cases. That strategy has avoided prolonged legal battles, saved taxpayer money on attorney fees and discovery costs, and prevented extended negative media coverage. Deviating from this prudent policy now, especially after damaging revelations, would be shortsighted.

A drawn-out trial would:

- Drain taxpayer funds,
- Draw more negative public attention as deeper evidence comes to light,
- Extend the emotional burden for all involved,
- Risk further legal exposure through expanded discovery.

A \$450,000 settlement:

1. **Shields taxpayers** from far greater costs—including potential punitive damages and appeals
2. **Compensates me fairly** and redirects resources that might otherwise be spent litigating.
3. **Affords the City closure**, allowing leadership to turn the page visibly and responsibly, rather than fighting in public with continued leadership scandal in the headlines.

This is not about punishment—it's about reaching a **practical, fiscally responsible resolution** that acknowledges mistakes and restores public trust. I remain open to finalizing this settlement with confidentiality and mutual non-disparagement, provided the City and its insurer act swiftly and in good faith.

In summary: A fair settlement at \$450,000 is the optimal approach—for the City, its employees, its insurance carrier, and the community—to draw a respectful line under this chapter, prevent further fallout, and uphold accountability without needless expense.

Sincerely,

Aaron Christopher Knapp, BSSW, LSW, CDCA

NASW Member ID: 886836612

Beko, Michele

From: Jonathan Rosenbaum <jerosenbaum@windstream.net>
Sent: Friday, May 30, 2025 11:12 AM
To: 'Beko, Michele'
Cc: 'Patrick Riley'; 'Joseph LaVeck'
Subject: RE: Records Request
Attachments: 25-5-30 pub recs ltr.pdf

*Redacted
ORC 149.43 A IV
ATTY client priv*

Jonathan E. Rosenbaum
230 Third Street, Suite 101
Elyria, Ohio 44035
440-322-7972

-----Original Message-----

From: Beko, Michele <Michele_Beko@cityoflorain.org>
Sent: Thursday, May 29, 2025 12:11 PM
To: Jonathan Rosenbaum <jerosenbaum@windstream.net>
Subject: Records Request

*Redacted
ORC 149.43 A IV
ATTY client priv*

Michele T. Beko
Administrative Asst/Office Manager
Lorain Law Director's Office
200 West Erie Avenue, 3rd floor
Lorain, OH 44052
440.204.2250
Michele_beko@cityoflorain.org<mailto:Michele_beko@cityoflorain.org>

Beko, Michele

From: LaVeck, Joseph <Joseph_LaVeck@cityoflorain.org>
Sent: Thursday, February 6, 2025 10:07 AM
To: Kokoski, Lori
Subject: RE: Names of all police Officers who have left Lorain PD

Re: actual
orc 149.43 A LV
ATTN client priv

Joseph T. LaVeck, Esq
Chief Asst. Law Director & Police Legal Advisor
200 W. Erie Avenue, 3rd Floor
Lorain, Ohio 44052
joseph_laveck@cityoflorain.org

From: Kokoski, Lori <Lori_Kokoski@cityoflorain.org>
Sent: Thursday, February 6, 2025 9:06 AM
To: LaVeck, Joseph <Joseph_LaVeck@cityoflorain.org>
Subject: FW: Names of all police Officers who have left Lorain PD

Re: actual
orc 149.43 A LV
ATTN client priv

From: Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 6, 2025 8:48 AM
To: Kokoski, Lori <Lori_Kokoski@cityoflorain.org>
Cc: Garon Petty <garonpetty@roadrunner.com>; Robert J Gargas <rjgargas@gmail.com>; Tony Cillo <antcillo.cill@gmail.com>; Lindsay Carr <lindsay.carr@ohioago.gov>; City Council Mail Group <CityCouncilMailGroup@cityoflorain.org>; LaVeck, Joseph <Joseph_LaVeck@cityoflorain.org>; Riley, Patrick <Patrick_Riley@cityoflorain.org>; Brad Dicken <BDicken@chroniclet.com>; Bradley, Jack <Jack_Bradley@cityoflorain.org>; David Yost AG <AGOCARES@ohioago.gov>
Subject: Re: Names of all police Officers who have left Lorain PD

External sender <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>

Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

I'm not asking you to create anything. I'm asking for all officers who'd left. You don't have retention records. Ok back to the court of claims. You really are this ignorant?

Each officer has a record in his file showing he left. Provide each one of those for every officer who left and stop trying to argue. It's not your money that you are costing taxpayers.

Stop. You do t have the education to fight me on this.

Aaron Christopher Knapp, LSW, CDCA(p),BSSW

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On Feb 6, 2025, at 08:30, Kokoski, Lori <Lori_Kokoski@cityoflorain.org> wrote:

Here is the legal authority:

"A public office has no duty under R.C. 149.43 to create new records by searching for and compiling information from existing records."

Reinel v. Butler City Auditor, 2018-Ohio-2914, 2018 Ohio Misc. LEXIS 63

From: Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>

Sent: Monday, February 3, 2025 5:55 PM

To: Garon Petty <garonpetty@roadrunner.com>

Cc: Kokoski, Lori <Lori_Kokoski@cityoflorain.org>; Robert J Gargas <rjgargas@gmail.com>; Tony Cillo <antcillo.cill@gmail.com>; Lindsay Carr <lindsay.carr@ohioago.gov>; City Council Mail Group <CityCouncilMailGroup@cityoflorain.org>; LaVeck, Joseph <Joseph_LaVeck@cityoflorain.org>; Riley, Patrick <Patrick_Riley@cityoflorain.org>; Brad Dicken <BDicken@chroniclet.com>; Bradley, Jack <Jack_Bradley@cityoflorain.org>; David Yost AG <AGOCARES@ohioago.gov>

Subject: Re: Names of all police Officers who have left Lorain PD

External sender <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>

Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

So you are refusing to give us the names of these officers, correct?

I assume you have a "law" to reference?

Can't just say no. You guys like to play games. Let's just go back to the court of claims again. Stop stone walling.

Provide the law on which you are denying this request.

Aaron Christopher Knapp, LSW, CDCA(p), BSSW

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On Feb 3, 2025, at 13:12, Garon Petty <garonpetty@roadrunner.com> wrote:

Thank you.

Garon Petty

On Feb 3, 2025, at 11:44 AM, Kokoski, Lori
<Lori_Kokoski@cityoflorain.org> wrote:

Mr. Petty,

Please see the response from the Law Department.

Thanks,

Lori

Re: *Re: [redacted]*
ORC 149.43 A 1 v
ATF client priv

Chief Asst. Law Director & Police Legal Advisor
200 W. Erie Avenue, 3rd Floor
Lorain, Ohio 44052

-----Original Message-----

From: Garon Petty <garonpetty@roadrunner.com>

Sent: Saturday, February 1, 2025 9:25 AM

To: Kokoski, Lori <Lori_Kokoski@cityoflorain.org>

Cc: Bradley, Jack <Jack_Bradley@cityoflorain.org>; McCann, James - Chief <Jim_McCann@cityoflorain.org>; Comer, David <DComer@CityofLorain.org>; Riley, Patrick <Patrick_Riley@cityoflorain.org>; Harper, Anita <Anita_Harper@cityoflorain.org>; Zaleski, Don <Don_Zaleski@cityoflorain.org>; LaVeck, Joseph <Joseph_LaVeck@cityoflorain.org>; City Council Mail Group <CityCouncilMailGroup@cityoflorain.org>; Carrion, Rey <Rey_Carrion@cityoflorain.org>

Subject: Names of all police Officers who have left Lorain PD

External sender <garonpetty@roadrunner.com>

Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

Hello Lori, Please send me the names of all police officers who have resigned, retired, been disciplined for the years 2023, 2024, and 2025 per ORC 149.43.

Thank you,
Garon Petty

Beko, Michele

From: Kokoski, Lori <Lori_Kokoski@cityoflorain.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 4, 2025 8:49 AM
To: LaVeck, Joseph
Subject: FW: Names of all police Officers who have left Lorain PD

*Rec'd
one 249-43 ALV
ATTY client priv*

From: Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, February 3, 2025 5:55 PM
To: Garon Petty <garonpetty@roadrunner.com>
Cc: Kokoski, Lori <Lori_Kokoski@cityoflorain.org>; Robert J Gargas <rjgargas@gmail.com>; Tony Cillo <antcillo.cill@gmail.com>; Lindsay Carr <lindsay.carr@ohioago.gov>; City Council Mail Group <CityCouncilMailGroup@cityoflorain.org>; LaVeck, Joseph <Joseph_LaVeck@cityoflorain.org>; Riley, Patrick <Patrick_Riley@cityoflorain.org>; Brad Dicken <BDicken@chroniclet.com>; Bradley, Jack <Jack_Bradley@cityoflorain.org>; David Yost AG <AGOCARES@ohioago.gov>
Subject: Re: Names of all police Officers who have left Lorain PD

External sender <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>

Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

So you are refusing to give us the names of these officers, correct?

I assume you have a "law" to reference?

Can't just say no. You guys like to play games. Let's just go back to the court of claims again. Stop stone walling.

Provide the law on which you are denying this request.

Aaron Christopher Knapp, LSW, CDCA(p), BSSW

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On Feb 3, 2025, at 13:12, Garon Petty <garonpetty@roadrunner.com> wrote:

Thank you.

Garon Petty

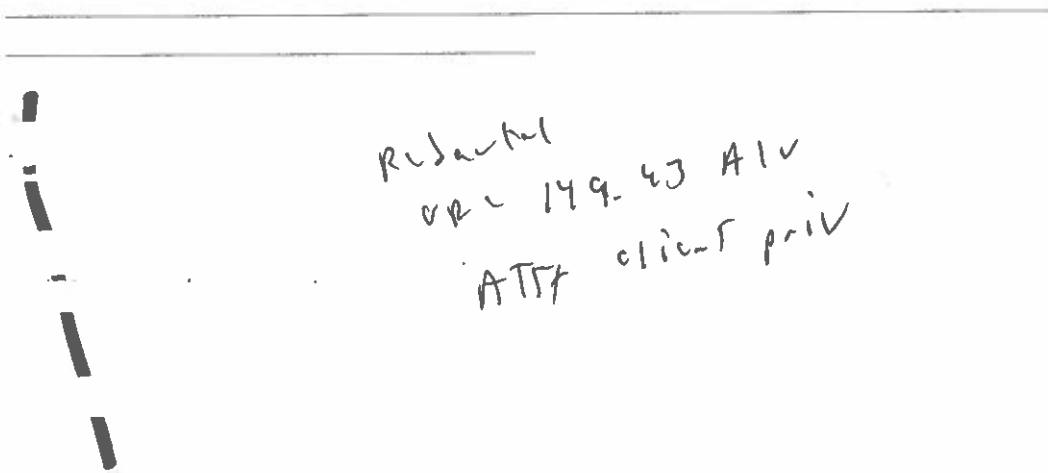
On Feb 3, 2025, at 11:44 AM, Kokoski, Lori <Lori_Kokoski@cityoflorain.org> wrote:

Mr. Petty,

Please see the response from the Law Department.

Thanks,

Lori



Joseph T. LaVeck, Esq
Chief Asst. Law Director & Police Legal Advisor
200 W. Erie Avenue, 3rd Floor
Lorain, Ohio 44052

-----Original Message-----

From: Garon Petty <garonpetty@roadrunner.com>

Sent: Saturday, February 1, 2025 9:25 AM

To: Kokoski, Lori <Lori_Kokoski@cityoflorain.org>

Cc: Bradley, Jack <Jack_Bradley@cityoflorain.org>; McCann, James - Chief <Jim_McCann@cityoflorain.org>; Comer, David <DComer@CityofLorain.org>; Riley, Patrick <Patrick_Riley@cityoflorain.org>; Harper, Anita <Anita_Harper@cityoflorain.org>; Zaleski, Don

<Don_Zaleski@cityoflorain.org>; LaVeck, Joseph
<Joseph_LaVeck@cityoflorain.org>; City Council Mail Group
<CityCouncilMailGroup@cityoflorain.org>; Carrion, Rey
<Rey_Carrion@cityoflorain.org>

Subject: Names of all police Officers who have left Lorain PD

External sender <garonpetty@roadrunner.com>

Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

Hello Lori, Please send me the names of all police officers who have resigned, retired, been disciplined for the years 2023, 2024, and 2025 per ORC 149.43.

Thank you,
Garon Petty

Beko, Michele

From: Kokoski, Lori <Lori_Kokoski@cityoflorain.org>
Sent: Thursday, January 23, 2025 9:21 AM
To: LaVeck, Joseph; Riley, Patrick; Beko, Michele
Subject: Radeff public record request
Attachments: Xerox Scan_01232025082115.pdf

*Re: actual
ORC 149.43 ALU
ATT client mail*

Beko, Michele

From: Comer, David <DComer@CityofLorain.org>
Sent: Thursday, August 28, 2025 10:51 AM
To: Bowles, Scott
Subject: RE: Public Records request search terms

*Referral
on 149.43 ALV
ATTY client prod*

From: Bowles, Scott <Scott_Bowles@cityoflorain.org>
Sent: Wednesday, August 20, 2025 10:29 AM
To: Comer, David <DComer@CityofLorain.org>
Subject: Public Records request search terms

Scott Bowles
Assistant Prosecutor
City of Lorain Law Department
(440) 204-2250

Beko, Michele

From: Comer, David <DComer@CityofLorain.org>
Sent: Tuesday, August 12, 2025 11:20 AM
To: LaVeck, Joseph
Subject: RE: Request for Emails Regarding Aaron Knapp

*Relected
one 149.43 AIV
ATTY client priv*

From: LaVeck, Joseph <Joseph_LaVeck@cityoflorain.org>
Sent: Tuesday, August 12, 2025 11:18 AM
To: Failing, Mike <Mike_Failing@cityoflorain.org>; Comer, David <DComer@CityofLorain.org>
Subject: Re: Request for Emails Regarding Aaron Knapp

*Relected
one 149.43 AIV
ATTY client priv*

From: Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, August 8, 2025 1:04 PM
To: Failing, Mike <Mike_Failing@cityoflorain.org>
Subject: Re: Request for Emails Regarding Aaron Knapp

External sender <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>
Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

No problem! Thank you!

Aaron Christopher Knapp, LSW, CDCA(p), BSSW

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On Aug 8, 2025, at 10:42, Failing, Mike <Mike_Failing@cityoflorain.org> wrote:

Mr. Knapp,

I am in receipt of your public records request and will begin working on it next week. Please allow about a week for completion, as I am the only person with access to that information.

A/Chief Michael Failing

From: Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>

Sent: Wednesday, August 6, 2025 11:08 AM

To: Lorain PD Records Request <LPDRecordsRequest@cityoflorain.org>; Lorain daily <erik@loraindaily.com>; Mike Mason <Mike.Mason@woio.com>; Clevescene <news@clevescene.com>; Noelle Williams <Noelle.Williams@woio.com>; Robert J. Gargas <rjgargas@gmail.com>; Garon Petty <onelung2014@gmail.com>; Fox <tips@fox8.com>; City Council Mail Group <CityCouncilMailGroup@cityoflorain.org>; Bradley, Jack <Jack_Bradley@cityoflorain.org>; Carrion, Rey <Rey_Carrion@cityoflorain.org>; David Yost AG <AGOCARES@ohioago.gov>; Brian Ames <bames00@gmail.com>; Dull, Breanna <Breanna_Dull@cityoflorain.org>; LaVeck, Joseph <Joseph_LaVeck@cityoflorain.org>; Failing, Mike <Mike_Failing@cityoflorain.org>

Subject: Request for Emails Regarding Aaron Knapp

External sender <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>

Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

I am still awaiting the full set of emails that meet the following criteria:

1. All emails exchanged between James McCann and Tia Hilton that reference or mention Aaron Knapp, including both sent and received messages.
2. All emails sent to or received from the Sheriff and/or Sheriff's Department that reference or mention Aaron Knapp.

Please confirm receipt of this request and provide an estimated timeline for when these records will be made available.

Thank you,

Aaron Christopher Knapp, LSW, CDCA(p),BSSW

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Beko, Michele

From: LaVeck, Joseph <Joseph_LaVeck@cityoflorain.org>
Sent: Tuesday, August 12, 2025 11:14 AM
To: Beko, Michele; Carrion, Rey; Soto, Rick
Subject: Fwd: Claim No.: 002653-004828-GD-01 / Claimant: Aaron Knapp / DOL: ~ 7/14/2023

*Re: [redacted]
att 149-43 AIV
ATTY client priv*

From: Melanie Greening <Melanie_Greening@gbtpa.com>
Date: August 11, 2025 at 4:02:50 PM EDT
To: "LaVeck, Joseph" <Joseph_LaVeck@cityoflorain.org>
Subject: Claim No.: 002653-004828-GD-01 / Claimant: Aaron Knapp / DOL: ~ 7/14/2023

External sender <melanie_greening@gbtpa.com>
Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

*Re: [redacted]
att 149-43 AIV
ATTY client priv*

Melanie Greening | Senior Resolution Manager | Gallagher Bassett
Gallagher Bassett CA License Number: 2731012

Reporting Branch: Public Sector Practice (291) | Office Location: Rolling Meadows, Illinois
Mailing Address: PO Box 2934, Clinton, IA 52733-2934
D: 763 416-8943 | F: 763 416-8979
E: Melanie_Greening@gbtpa.com
Alternate Point of Contact: Scott_Nielsen@gbtpa.com

Gallagher Bassett is committed to providing exceptional service. If you wish to share a compliment or comment about the service I have provided, please email GB.ServiceExcellence@gbtpa.com

Beko, Michele

From: Carrion, Rey <Rey_Carrion@cityoflorain.org>
Sent: Monday, August 11, 2025 9:55 AM
To: Pritchard, Joseph; Riley, Patrick; Bradley, Jack
Cc: Beko, Michele
Subject: FW: Please read into the record — considerations before voting on LPD's \$25,000 Grammarly purchase

*Rebachel
one 149.43 ALV
Att client priv*

From: Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, August 11, 2025 4:01 AM
To: City Council Mail Group <CityCouncilMailGroup@cityoflorain.org>; Bradley, Jack <Jack_Bradley@cityoflorain.org>; Carrion, Rey <Rey_Carrion@cityoflorain.org>; Failing, Mike <Mike_Failing@cityoflorain.org>
Cc: Robert J. Gargas <rjgargas@gmail.com>; Mike Mason <mike.mason@woio.com>; Garon Petty <onelung2014@gmail.com>; Cleveland Scene <news@clevescene.com>; Lorain Daily <erik@loraindaily.com>; Noelle Williams <noelle.williams@woio.com>; newsdesk@wews.com
Subject: Please read into the record — considerations before voting on LPD's \$25,000 Grammarly purchase

External sender <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>

Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

President, Members of Council, and Mayor:

My name is Aaron Knapp. I'm a Lorain resident and social worker who has spent considerable time reporting on city policy and technology choices. I'm writing about the proposed \$25,000 Grammarly purchase for the Lorain Police Department, reportedly from the Levy Special Revenue Community Service fund. I support clearer writing in government. I also want to make sure we don't trade clarity for compliance risk.

Here is the core issue in plain English. Grammarly is a cloud writing tool. To offer suggestions, it sends the text you type to its own servers for analysis. Police writing often contains Criminal Justice Information—names, dates of birth, witness statements, investigative details, and in some cases NCIC-derived data. That category of information is governed by the FBI's CJIS Security Policy. CJIS is not a brand or a marketing badge; it is a rulebook that dictates where criminal justice data can live, who can touch it, how it is encrypted, how access is logged, how long it is retained, and what rights the agency must have to audit the vendor. If a vendor's systems or personnel can see that data, the city must have a CJIS Security Addendum in the contract and a technical setup that actually enforces those safeguards.

That leads to the first question Council should ask before spending a dollar: will this purchase be limited to non-CJI writing, or is it intended for police reports and narratives? If it is limited to non-CJI work—press releases, recruitment copy, public notices—then say so in a written policy, install it only on non-CJIS machines, and disable any features that train models on our text. If it is intended to touch reports or narratives, then the city must be prepared to produce a CJIS-conformant agreement, show where the data will sit, show that vendor staff are vetted under CJIS rules, and show that the department will be able to audit access and retention. "Secure SaaS" and general certifications are not the same thing as CJIS compliance.

The second consideration is prosecutorial acceptance and courtroom integrity. If report narratives are drafted or polished in a public cloud without CJIS controls, prosecutors may decline to use those narratives, defense attorneys may challenge them, and the city could find itself relitigating the reliability of its own paperwork. Several large departments around the

country have paused or prohibited the use of public, consumer generative tools for this reason while they develop formal policies. Lorain should learn from that caution rather than repeat the lesson.

Third, scope and value matter. Twenty-five thousand dollars is a significant number for a writing assistant. Council should know how many seats are included, which edition is being purchased, how long the term lasts, and which features are enabled. Council should also know whether the tenant will be configured to turn off model training and to minimize or prohibit content retention. Just as important, Council should hear which endpoints will run the software. RMS and CAD machines should not be in scope unless and until a CJIS-conformant agreement and architecture are in place.

There is a responsible path if Council wishes to proceed. Start with a narrow, non-CJI pilot and a short, plain-language policy that defines CJI in terms officers recognize—names, DOBs, case numbers, NCIC hits, and narrative facts from live investigations. Install Grammarly only on administrative workstations, not on systems that touch CJIS networks. Train staff with concrete examples of "what's okay" and "what isn't," and require an attestation that they understand the rule. Set a six-month window to measure whether the tool actually improves non-CJI writing, and commit to making those metrics public. If a single violation occurs—if even one live paragraph slips into the cloud—treat that as a failed control and stop the program while it is still small.

There is also a lower-risk alternative if Council wants to press pause. Lorain already pays for Microsoft Word's editor, which can be used locally and configured not to transmit content to the cloud. A two-page internal style guide—how to structure a narrative, what facts belong where, common phrasing—will improve clarity immediately. Short, focused training on chronology, active voice, and avoiding ambiguity will do more for credibility in court than any algorithm. If leadership still wants AI-assisted drafting for reports, look at tools purpose-built for law enforcement and hosted in government cloud environments with CJIS controls, rather than forcing criminal justice data through a consumer service.

Finally, the funding source deserves a sentence of justification. If this is coming from the Levy Special Revenue Community Service fund, the public deserves to hear why this is the best use of those dollars and what will not be funded as a result. That explanation should be part of the motion, not an afterthought.

Clear writing matters. So does the chain of custody for our data and the credibility of our reports. Please either limit this purchase to non-CJI uses with a written policy and measurable outcomes, or table it until the department can present a CJIS-conformant contract and a deployment plan that protects sensitive information by design.

Thank you for your time and for entering this letter into the record.

Aaron Christopher Knapp, BSSW, LSW, CDCA
NASW Member ID: 886836612

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Beko, Michele

From: Failing, Mike <Mike_Failing@cityoflorain.org>
Sent: Monday, August 11, 2025 4:00 PM
To: LaVeck, Joseph
Subject: FW: Request for Emails Regarding Aaron Knapp

*Rejected
OAC 249.43 A 1v
ATTY client priv*

From: Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, August 8, 2025 1:04 PM
To: Failing, Mike <Mike_Failing@cityoflorain.org>
Subject: Re: Request for Emails Regarding Aaron Knapp

External sender <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>
Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

No problem! Thank you!

Aaron Christopher Knapp, LSW, CDCA(p), BSSW

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On Aug 8, 2025, at 10:42, Failing, Mike <Mike_Failing@cityoflorain.org> wrote:

Mr. Knapp,

I am in receipt of your public records request and will begin working on it next week. Please allow about a week for completion, as I am the only person with access to that information.

A/Chief Michael Failing

From: Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 6, 2025 11:08 AM
To: Lorain PD Records Request <LPDRecordsRequest@cityoflorain.org>; Lorain daily <erik@loraindaily.com>; Mike Mason <Mike.Mason@woio.com>; Clevescene <news@clevescene.com>; Noelle Williams <Noelle.Williams@woio.com>; Robert J. Gargas <rjgargas@gmail.com>; Garon Petty

<onelung2014@gmail.com>; Fox <tips@fox8.com>; City Council Mail Group
<CityCouncilMailGroup@cityoflorain.org>; Bradley, Jack <Jack_Bradley@cityoflorain.org>; Carrion, Rey
<Rey_Carrion@cityoflorain.org>; David Yost AG <AGOCARES@ohioago.gov>; Brian Ames
<bmames00@gmail.com>; Dull, Breanna <Breanna_Dull@cityoflorain.org>; LaVeck, Joseph
<Joseph_LaVeck@cityoflorain.org>; Failing, Mike <Mike_Failing@cityoflorain.org>
Subject: Request for Emails Regarding Aaron Knapp

External sender <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>
Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

I am still awaiting the full set of emails that meet the following criteria:

1. All emails exchanged between James McCann and Tia Hilton that reference or mention Aaron Knapp, including both sent and received messages.
2. All emails sent to or received from the Sheriff and/or Sheriff's Department that reference or mention Aaron Knapp.

Please confirm receipt of this request and provide an estimated timeline for when these records will be made available.

Thank you,

Aaron Christopher Knapp, LSW, CDCA(p), BSSW

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Beko, Michele

From: LaVeck, Joseph <Joseph_LaVeck@cityoflorain.org>
Sent: Wednesday, May 28, 2025 1:38 PM
To: JONATHAN ROSENBAUM
Subject: FW: False Statements

*Re: actual
one 149-43 A1V
ATT client priv*

Joseph T. LaVeck, Esq
Chief Asst. Law Director & Police Legal Advisor
200 W. Erie Avenue, 3rd Floor
Lorain, Ohio 44052
joseph_laveck@cityoflorain.org

From: Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 28, 2025 12:34 PM
To: Morris, Jacob <Jacob_Morris@cityoflorain.org>; Robert J. Gargasz <rjgargasz@gmail.com>; City Council Mail Group <CityCouncilMailGroup@cityoflorain.org>; Garon Petty <onelung2014@gmail.com>
Cc: Lorain_Records <lorain_records@lorain.boe.ohio.gov>
Subject: Re: False Statements

External sender <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>
Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

I am giving my 3 days notice of intent to file wit court of claims. I want every message between James McCann and Tia Hilton on any work device and any work related on personal devices.

Aaron Christopher Knapp, BSSW, LSW, CDCA
NASW Member ID: 886836612

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On Thursday, April 17, 2025 at 08:30:51 AM EDT, Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com> wrote:

Chief James McCann is listed in a sheriff report as having regurgitated and repeated lies about heresy statements made by Jon Morrow to deputies about me. I want him charged.

Since the Oberlin prosecutors has refused charges on me and Hilton was the driving force, McCanns involved by admission, and Hilton has filed a PO.

I have all the proof this never happened, Morrow lied, and I hope he recorded the call, I record a lot of conversations.

So now your chief has participated again in ongoing harassment against me. I want a report against Morrow as well as McCann and copies of any communications McCann has had with Hilton in regards to Knapp on any phone, computer, or device.

You people are so screwed. This is the last straw. I have so much evidence on all of you.

I have spoken to Morrow since 3/27 so his statements are false and McCann is Bringing the 1.66 gpa big brain and believed then.

You guys are so screwed.

Give me my records or we go to court of claims.

I will be publishing the report showing how A Journal reporter gave up sources as well as shared lies to the police. Great job Heather! Great Job Jon! Great Job McCann! Great Job Lorain!

I want every message between Jane's McCan and Tia Hilton on any work device and any work related on personal devices.

You have 10 days.

Aaron Christopher Knapp, citizen

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Beko, Michele

From: Strader, John <John_Strader@cityoflorain.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 18, 2025 2:57 PM
To: Beko, Michele
Subject: RE: Records Requests for contracts.
Attachments: O87-22.pdf

*Revised one 149.23 A1V
ATTY client priv*

John A. Strader, MPA
Deputy Auditor
City of Lorain Auditors Office
Phone: 440-204-2090 - Ex: 2815
Address: 200 W Erie Avenue, Lorain OH 44052, 6th Floor



From: Beko, Michele <Michele_Beko@cityoflorain.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 18, 2025 2:02 PM
To: Strader, John <John_Strader@cityoflorain.org>
Subject: FW: Records Requests for contracts.

From: Carbonaro, Joseph <Joseph_Carbonaro@cityoflorain.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 18, 2025 1:27 PM
To: Kalo, Ted <Ted_Kalo@cityoflorain.org>
Cc: Beko, Michele <Michele_Beko@cityoflorain.org>; Koziura, Joseph <Joe_Koziura@cityoflorain.org>; Strader, John <John_Strader@cityoflorain.org>; Beko, Michele <Michele_Beko@cityoflorain.org>; Koziura, Joseph <Joe_Koziura@cityoflorain.org>; Strader, John <John_Strader@cityoflorain.org>
Subject: Re: Records Requests for contracts.

Handwritten arrow pointing down with "ll" next to it.

Sent from my iPhone

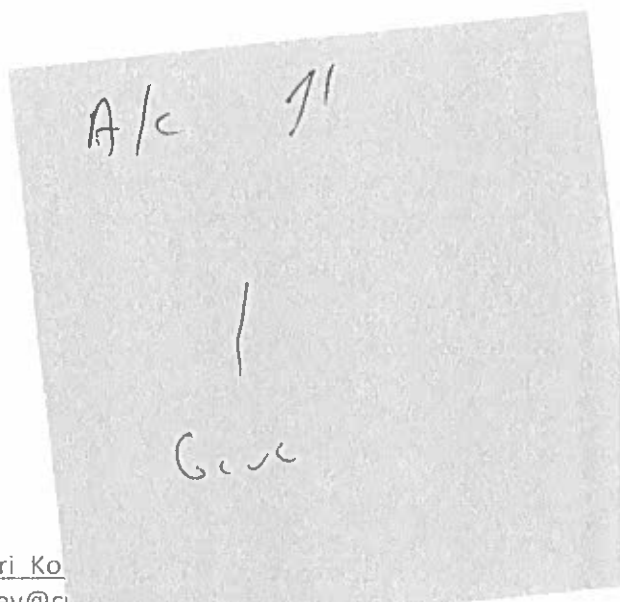
On Feb 18, 2025, at 1:16 PM, Kalo, Ted <Ted_Kalo@cityoflorain.org> wrote:

I do not have any contracts with the City of Sheffield Lake.

From: Beko, Michele <Michele_Beko@cityoflorain.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 18, 2025 11:49 AM
To: Koziura, Joseph <Joe_Koziura@cityoflorain.org>; Carbonaro, Joseph <Joseph_Carbonaro@cityoflorain.org>; Kalo, Ted <Ted_Kalo@cityoflorain.org>
Cc: Strader, John <John_Strader@cityoflorain.org>
Subject: FW: Records Requests for contracts.

Revised
on 149.43 A1V
ATF client priv

Michele T. Beko
Administrative Asst/Office Manager
Lorain Law Director's Office
200 West Erie Avenue, 3rd floor
Lorain, OH 44052
440.204.2250
Michele_beko@cityoflorain.org



From: Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, January 31, 2025 1:05 PM
To: Koziura, Joseph <Joe_Koziura@cityoflorain.org>
Cc: Robert J. Gargasz <rjgargasz@gmail.com>; Kokoski, Lori <Lori_Ko
Rey <Rey_Carrion@cityoflorain.org>; Bradley, Jack <Jack_Bradley@ci
<Patrick_Riley@cityoflorain.org>; Zaleski, Don <Don_Zaleski@cityoflorain.org>; Arredondo, Joel
<joel_arredondo@cityoflorain.org>; City Council Mail Group <CityCouncilMailGroup@cityoflorain.org>;
Radeff, Rocky <Rocky_Radeff@cityoflorain.org>; Morris, Jacob <Jacob_Morris@cityoflorain.org>;
McCann, James - Chief <Jim_McCann@cityoflorain.org>; Harper, Anita
<Anita_Harper@cityoflorain.org>; Andrew Geronimo JD <andrew.geronimo@case.edu>; Tom Niewulis
<tniewulis@ncdcs.com>; Mike Mason <Mike.Mason@woio.com>; Brad Dicken
<BDicken@chroniclet.com>; Brian Ames <bmames00@gmail.com>; Carissa Woytach
<cwoytach@chroniclet.com>; VEK6173@aol.com; Natalio Rodriquez <natalio@centurytel.net>; Jackie
Conrad <botanist62@hotmail.com>; Kathryn Kennedy <kathrynkennedy627@gmail.com>; Kirsten Hill
<kirsten@kirstenhill.com>; Monica D. Pluta <Monica.Pluta@lcprosecutor.org>; Craig Snodgrass
<auditor@loraincounty.com>; David J Moore <dmoore@loraincounty.us>; jridell@loraincounty.us;
mgallagher@loraincounty.us; Michael Scherach <mjscherach.law@centurytel.net>; Mike Doran
<mikedoran@mikedoran.com>; Mike Brosky@fflorain.bank; Dennis Flores
<dennisforlorain@gmail.com>; Linda Rivera <nrivera25594@gmail.com>; Denise Wilms
<denisewilms@aol.com>; Jim Renacci <jrenacci@gmail.com>; Jeanne Petty <jeanne_810@yahoo.com>;
sandemeilander@yahoo.com; David Yost AG <AGOCARES@ohioago.gov>
Subject: Re: Records Requests for contracts.

External sender <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>
Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

What about contracts with the municipal court? In recent budget talk's Sheffield Lake received or made payments to the city of Lorain for something? What's that? Do you have an agreement for the municipal court and Sheffield lake, or do they have their own? How does that work?

Aaron Christopher Knapp, LSW, CDCA(p), BSSW

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On Jan 31, 2025, at 10:14, Koziura, Joseph <Joe_Koziura@cityoflorain.org> wrote:

To all concerned,

The following items are the only contracts that this office is aware of, at this time, concerning the cities of Lorain and Sheffield Lake.

Mutual Aide for Safety Forces

Water Pollution Control (Sewage Services)

Regards,

Joe

From: Robert J. Gargas <rjgargas@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, January 28, 2025 4:25 PM

To: Koziura, Joseph <Joe_Koziura@cityoflorain.org>; Kokoski, Lori <Lori_Kokoski@cityoflorain.org>; Carrion, Rey <Rey_Carrion@cityoflorain.org>; Bradley, Jack <Jack_Bradley@cityoflorain.org>; Riley, Patrick <Patrick_Riley@cityoflorain.org>; Zaleski, Don <Don_Zaleski@cityoflorain.org>; Arredondo, Joel <joel_arredondo@cityoflorain.org>; City Council Mail Group <CityCouncilMailGroup@cityoflorain.org>; Radeff, Rocky <Rocky_Radeff@cityoflorain.org>; Morris, Jacob <Jacob_Morris@cityoflorain.org>; McCann, James - Chief <Jim_McCann@cityoflorain.org>

Cc: Harper, Anita <Anita_Harper@cityoflorain.org>; Andrew Geronimo JD <andrew.geronimo@case.edu>; Robert J Gargas <rjgargas@gmail.com>; Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>; Tom Niewulis <tniewulis@ncdcs.com>; Mike Mason <Mike.Mason@woio.com>; Brad Dicken <BDicken@chroniclet.com>; Brian Ames <bmames00@gmail.com>; Carissa Woytach <cwoytach@chroniclet.com>; VEK6173@aol.com; Natalio Rodriquez <natalio@centurytel.net>; Jackie Conrad <botanist62@hotmail.com>; Kathryn Kennedy <kathrynkennedy627@gmail.com>; Kirsten Hill <kirsten@kirstenhill.com>; Monica D. Pluta

<Monica.Pluta@lcprosecutor.org>; Craig Snodgrass <auditor@loraincounty.com>; David J Moore <DMoore@loraincounty.us>; jridell@loraincounty.us; mgallagher@loraincounty.us; Michael Scherach <mjscherach.law@centurytel.net>; Mike Doran <mikedoran@mikedoran.com>; Mike Brosky@fflorain.bank; Dennis Flores <dennisforlorain@gmail.com>; Linda Rivera <nrivera25594@gmail.com>; Denise Wilms <denisewilms@aol.com>; Jim Renacci <jrenacci@gmail.com>; jeanne Petty <jeanne_810@yahoo.com>; sandemeilander@yahoo.com; David Yost AG <AGOCARES@ohioago.gov>

Subject: Fwd: Records Requests for contracts.

External sender <rjgargas@gmail.com>

Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

ALL

Garon had requested city contracts Lorain has with Sheffield Lake, Ohio, service and monetary contracts lists.

Per 149.43 or any ORC that requires the public records to be made public when asked for.

As you are or may be a custodian of such records please provide them as requested by Mr. Petty.

The response provided by the Law Department is not adequate as it should have been referred to the appropriate custodian of the appropriate records.

The service director and auditor should each be a repository of such public records, correct?

Please respond to Mr. Petty.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Garon Petty <garonpetty@roadrunner.com>
Date: January 28, 2025 at 3:38:00 PM EST
To: Lindsay Carr <Lindsay.Carr@ohioago.gov>, lcp@lcprosecutor.org, NortheastRegion@ohioauditor.gov
Cc: "Harper, Anita" <Anita_Harper@cityoflorain.org>, "Andrew Geronimo, JD" <andrew.geronimo@case.edu>, Robert J Gargas <rjgargas@gmail.com>, Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>, Tom Niewulis <tniewulis@ncdcs.com>, Mike Mason <Mike.Mason@woio.com>, Brad Dicken <BDicken@chroniclet.com>, Brian Ames <bmames00@gmail.com>, Carissa Woytach

<cwoytach@chroniclet.com>, VEK6173@aol.com, Natalio Rodriguez <natalio@centurytel.net>, Jackie Conrad <botanist62@hotmail.com>, Kathryn Kennedy <kathrynkennedy627@gmail.com>, Kirsten Hill <kirsten@kirstenhill.com>, "Monica D. Pluta" <Monica.Pluta@lcprosecutor.org>, Craig Snodgrass <auditor@loraincounty.com>, David J Moore <DMoore@loraincounty.us>, jriddell@loraincounty.us, mgallagher@loraincounty.us, Michael Scherach <mjscherach.law@centurytel.net>, Mike Doran <mikedoran@mikedoran.com>, Mike.Brosky@fflorain.bank, Dennis Flores <dennisforlorain@gmail.com>, Linda Rivera <nrivera25594@gmail.com>, Denise Wilms <denisewilms@aol.com>, Jim Renacci <jrenacci@gmail.com>, jeanne Petty <jeanne_810@yahoo.com>, sandemeilander@yahoo.com, David Yost AG <AGOCARES@ohioago.gov>

Subject: Records Requests for contracts.

Hello Ms Carr, Lorain County Prosecutor and Northeast Region of Ohio Auditor,

I am now asking for an investigation why I cant get my records request fulfilled from the City of Lorain, Ohio?

Hello, please send me a list of all contracts the city of Lorain, Ohio has with the city of Sheffield Lake, Ohio, service and monetary contracts lists.

Per 149.43 or any ORC that requires the public records to be made public when asked for.

Thank You

Garon Petty January 17, 2025

"Mr. Petty,

Please be informed that this office is not the keeper of any documents which constitute "a list of all contracts the City of Lorain has with the City of Sheffield Lake, Ohio and monetary contracts lists." You may wish to contact the Utilities Dept.

Law Director Riley" January 27, 2025

Help us in Lorain, Ohio please,
Garon Petty

Beko, Michele

From: Carbonaro, Joseph <Joseph_Carbonaro@cityoflorain.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 18, 2025 4:47 PM
To: Beko, Michele
Cc: Schilens, Pamela; Schilens, Pamela
Subject: Re: Records Requests for contracts

I will not be able to look for it until Thursday.

Joe

Sent from my iPhone

From: Carbonaro, Joseph <Joseph_Carbonaro@cityoflorain.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 18, 2025 1:27 PM
To: Kalo, Ted <Ted_Kalo@cityoflorain.org>
Cc: Beko, Michele <Michele_Beko@cityoflorain.org>; Koziura, Joseph <Joe_Koziura@cityoflorain.org>; Strader, John <John_Strader@cityoflorain.org>; Beko, Michele <Michele_Beko@cityoflorain.org>; Koziura, Joseph <Joe_Koziura@cityoflorain.org>; Strader, John <John_Strader@cityoflorain.org>
Subject: Re: Records Requests for contracts.

*Re-bentel
on 2-14-25 9:43 AM
ATTN click PW*

~~Sent from my iPhone~~

On Feb 18, 2025, at 1:16 PM, Kalo, Ted <Ted_Kalo@cityoflorain.org> wrote:

I do not have any contracts with the City of Sheffield Lake.

From: Beko, Michele <Michele_Beko@cityoflorain.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 18, 2025 11:49 AM
To: Koziura, Joseph <Joe_Koziura@cityoflorain.org>; Carbonaro, Joseph <Joseph_Carbonaro@cityoflorain.org>; Kalo, Ted <Ted_Kalo@cityoflorain.org>
Cc: Strader, John <John_Strader@cityoflorain.org>
Subject: FW: Records Requests for contracts.

Re: Subject
ORC 149-22 A 14
ATTN client Priv

Michele T. Beko
Administrative Asst/Office Manager
Lorain Law Director's Office
200 West Erie Avenue, 3rd floor
Lorain, OH 44052
440.204.2250
Michele_beko@cityoflorain.org

From: Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, January 31, 2025 1:05 PM
To: Koziura, Joseph <Joe_Koziura@cityoflorain.org>
Cc: Robert J. Gargas <rjgargas@gmail.com>; Kokoski, Lori <Lori_Kokoski@cityoflorain.org>; Carrion, Rey <Rey_Carrion@cityoflorain.org>; Jack Bradley <Jack_Bradley@cityoflorain.org>; Riley, Patrick <Patrick_Riley@cityoflorain.org>; Zaleski, Don <Don_Zaleski@cityoflorain.org>; Arredondo, Joel <joel_arredondo@cityoflorain.org>; City Council Mail Group <CityCouncilMailGroup@cityoflorain.org>; Radeff, Rocky <Rocky_Radeff@cityoflorain.org>; Morris, Jacob <Jacob_Morris@cityoflorain.org>; McCann, James - Chief <Jim_McCann@cityoflorain.org>; Harper, Anita <Anita_Harper@cityoflorain.org>; Andrew Geronimo JD <andrew.geronimo@case.edu>; Tom Niewulis <tniewulis@ncdcs.com>; Mike Mason <Mike.Mason@woio.com>; Brad Dicken <BDicken@chroniclet.com>; Brian Ames <bmames00@gmail.com>; Carissa Woytach <cwoytach@chroniclet.com>; VEK6173@aol.com; Natalio Rodriquez <natalio@centurytel.net>; Jackie Conrad <botanist62@hotmail.com>; Kathryn Kennedy <kathrynkennedy627@gmail.com>; Kirsten Hill <kirsten@kirstenhill.com>; Monica D. Pluta <Monica.Pluta@lcprosecutor.org>; Craig Snodgrass <auditor@loraincounty.com>; David J Moore <dmoore@loraincounty.us>; jridell@loraincounty.us; mgallagher@loraincounty.us; Michael Scherach <mjscherach.law@centurytel.net>; Mike Doran <mikedoran@mikedoran.com>; Mike Brosky <mfrosky@fflorain.bank>; Dennis Flores <dennisforlorain@gmail.com>; Linda Rivera <nrivera25594@gmail.com>; Denise Wilms <denisewilms@aol.com>; Jim Renacci <jrenacci@gmail.com>; Jeanne Petty <jeanne_810@yahoo.com>; sandemeilander@yahoo.com; David Yost AG <AGOCARES@ohioago.gov>
Subject: Re: Records Requests for contracts.

AIC 91

External sender <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>

Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

What about contracts with the municipal court? In recent budget talk's Sheffield Lake received or made payments to the city of Lorain for something? What's that? Do you have an agreement for the municipal court and Sheffield lake, or do they have their own? How does that work?

Aaron Christopher Knapp, LSW, CDCA(p), BSSW

NOTICE: THIS ELECTRONIC MESSAGE TRANSMISSION CONTAINS INFORMATION WHICH MAY BE CONFIDENTIAL OR PRIVILEGED. THE INFORMATION IS INTENDED ONLY FOR THE USE OF THE INDIVIDUAL(S) OR ENTITY(IES) NAMED ABOVE. IF YOU ARE NOT THE INTENDED RECIPIENT, PLEASE BE AWARE THAT ANY DISCLOSURE, COPYING, DISTRIBUTION, OR USE OF THE CONTENTS OF THIS INFORMATION IS PROHIBITED. IF YOU HAVE RECEIVED THIS ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION IN ERROR, PLEASE IMMEDIATELY NOTIFY THE SENDER AND DELETE THE COPY YOU RECEIVED.

On Jan 31, 2025, at 10:14, Koziura, Joseph
<Joe_Koziura@cityoflorain.org> wrote:

To all concerned,

The following items are the only contracts that this office is aware of, at this time, concerning the cities of Lorain and Sheffield Lake.

Mutual Aide for Safety Forces

Water Pollution Control (Sewage Services)

Regards,

Joe

From: Robert J. Gargas <rjgargas@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, January 28, 2025 4:25 PM

To: Koziura, Joseph <Joe_Koziura@cityoflorain.org>; Kol

<Lori_Kokoski@cityoflorain.org>; Carrion, Rey

<Rey_Carrion@cityoflorain.org>; Bradley, Jack

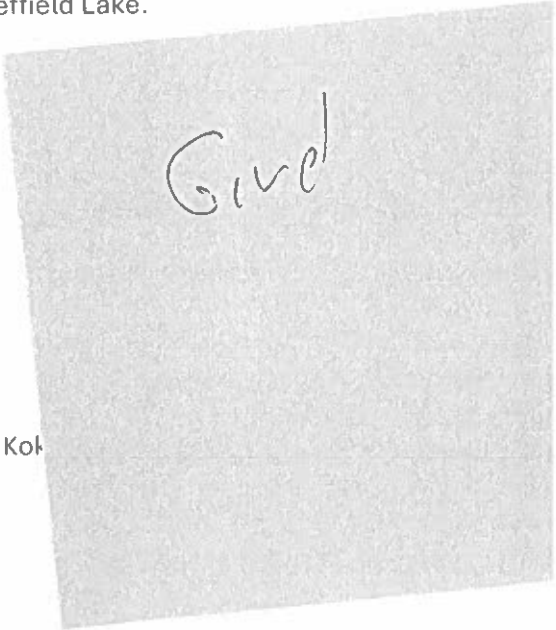
<Jack_Bradley@cityoflorain.org>; Riley, Patrick

<Patrick_Riley@cityoflorain.org>; Zaleski, Don

<Don_Zaleski@cityoflorain.org>; Arredondo, Joel

<joel_arredondo@cityoflorain.org>; City Council Mail Group

<CityCouncilMailGroup@cityoflorain.org>; Radeff, Rocky



Givel

<Rocky_Radef@cityoflorain.org>; Morris, Jacob
<Jacob_Morris@cityoflorain.org>; McCann, James - Chief
<Jim_McCann@cityoflorain.org>
Cc: Harper, Anita <Anita_Harper@cityoflorain.org>; Andrew Geronimo
JD <andrew_geronimo@case.edu>; Robert J Gargas
<rjgargas@gmail.com>; Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>;
Tom Niewulis <tniewulis@ncdcs.com>; Mike Mason
<Mike.Mason@woio.com>; Brad Dicken <BDicken@chroniclet.com>;
Brian Ames <bmames00@gmail.com>; Carissa Woytach
<cwoytach@chroniclet.com>; VEK6173@aol.com; Natalio Rodriquez
<natalio@centurytel.net>; Jackie Conrad <botanist62@hotmail.com>;
Kathryn Kennedy <kathrynkennedy627@gmail.com>; Kirsten Hill
<kirsten@kirstenhill.com>; Monica D. Pluta
<Monica.Pluta@lcprosecutor.org>; Craig Snodgrass
<auditor@loraincounty.com>; David J Moore
<DMoore@loraincounty.us>; jriddell@loraincounty.us;
mgallagher@loraincounty.us; Michael Scherach
<mjscherach.law@centurytel.net>; Mike Doran
<mikedoran@mikedoran.com>; Mike.Brosky@fflorain.bank; Dennis
Flores <dennisforlorain@gmail.com>; Linda Rivera
<nrivera25594@gmail.com>; Denise Wilms <denisewilms@aol.com>;
Jim Renacci <jrenacci@gmail.com>; Jeanne Petty
<jeanne_810@yahoo.com>; sandemeilander@yahoo.com; David Yost
AG <AGOCARES@ohioago.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Records Requests for contracts.

External sender <rjgargas@gmail.com>

Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

ALL

Garon had requested city contracts Lorain has with Lake, Ohio, service and monetary contracts lists.

Per 149.43 or any ORC that requires the public records to be made public when asked for.

As you are or may be a custodian of such records provide them as requested by Mr. Petty.

The response provided by the Law Department is as it should have been referred to the appropriate the appropriate records.

The service director and auditor should each be responsible for such public records, correct?

Please respond to Mr. Petty.

Sent from my iPhone

Givi
↓
AL

Begin forwarded message:

From: Garon Petty

<garonpetty@roadrunner.com>

Date: January 28, 2025 at 3:38:00 PM EST

To: Lindsay Carr <Lindsay.Carr@ohioago.gov>, lcp@lcprosecutor.org, NortheastRegion@ohioauditor.gov

Cc: "Harper, Anita"

<Anita_Harper@cityoflorain.org>, "Andrew Geronimo, JD" <andrew.geronimo@case.edu>, Robert J Gargasz <rjgargasz@gmail.com>, Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>, Tom Niewulis <tniewulis@ncdcs.com>, Mike Mason <Mike.Mason@woio.com>, Brad Dicken <BDicken@chroniclet.com>, Brian Ames <bmames00@gmail.com>, Carissa Woytach <cwoytach@chroniclet.com>, VEK6173@aol.com, Natalio Rodriguez <natalio@centurytel.net>, Jackie Conrad <botanist62@hotmail.com>, Kathryn Kennedy <kathrynkennedy627@gmail.com>, Kirsten Hill <kirsten@kirstenhill.com>, "Monica D. Pluta" <Monica.Pluta@lcprosecutor.org>, Craig Snodgrass <auditor@loraincounty.com>, David J Moore <DMoore@loraincounty.us>, jriddell@loraincounty.us, mgallagher@loraincounty.us, Michael Scherach <mjscherach.law@centurytel.net>, Mike Doran <mikedoran@mikedoran.com>, Mike.Brosky@fflorain.bank, Dennis Flores <dennisforlorain@gmail.com>, Linda Rivera <nriviera25594@gmail.com>, Denise Wilms <denisewilms@aol.com>, Jim Renacci <jrenacci@gmail.com>, jeanne Petty <jeanne_810@yahoo.com>, sandemeilander@yahoo.com, David Yost AG <AGOCARES@ohioago.gov>

Subject: Records Requests for contracts.

Hello Ms Carr, Lorain County Prosecutor and Northeast Region of Ohio Auditor,

I am now asking for an investigation why I cant get my records request fulfilled from the City of Lorain, Ohio?

Hello, please send me a list of all contracts the city of Lorain, Ohio has with the city of Sheffield Lake, Ohio, service and monetary contracts lists.

Per 149.43 or any ORC that requires the public records to be made public when asked for.

Thank You

Garon Petty January 17, 2025

"Mr. Petty,

Please be informed that this office is not the keeper of any documents which constitute "a list of all contracts the City of Lorain has with the City of Sheffield Lake, Ohio and monetary contracts lists." You may wish to contact the Utilities Dept.

Law Director Riley" January 27, 2025

Help us in Lorain, Ohio please,
Garon Petty

Beko, Michele

From: Schilens, Pamela <Pamela_Schilens@cityoflorain.org>
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2025 7:49 AM
To: Beko, Michele; Carbonaro, Joseph
Subject: RE: Records Requests for contracts.
Attachments: 7-20-2022 - Sheffield Lake Sewer Agreement.pdf

*Reschedule ORC 149.43 All
ATTY Elizabeth*

Pam Schilens

Administrative Assistant
City of Lorain Utilities - Admin
1106 W. 1st Street
Lorain, Ohio 44052

P: 440.204.2500 x9
F: 440.204.2538

From: Beko, Michele <Michele_Beko@cityoflorain.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 18, 2025 3:18 PM
To: Carbonaro, Joseph <Joseph_Carbonaro@cityoflorain.org>
Cc: Schilens, Pamela <Pamela_Schilens@cityoflorain.org>
Subject: RE: records Requests for contracts.



11

From: Carbonaro, Joseph <Joseph_Carbonaro@cityoflorain.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 18, 2025 1:27 PM
To: Kalo, Ted <Ted_Kalo@cityoflorain.org>
Cc: Beko, Michele <Michele_Beko@cityoflorain.org>; Koziura, Joseph <Joe_Koziura@cityoflorain.org>; Strader, John <John_Strader@cityoflorain.org>; Beko, Michele <Michele_Beko@cityoflorain.org>; Koziura, Joseph <Joe_Koziura@cityoflorain.org>; Strader, John <John_Strader@cityoflorain.org>
Subject: Re: Records Requests for contracts.

There is one agreement we have for sanitary sewer service with Sheffield Lake. The agreement should be in Docuware.

Thank you

Joe C

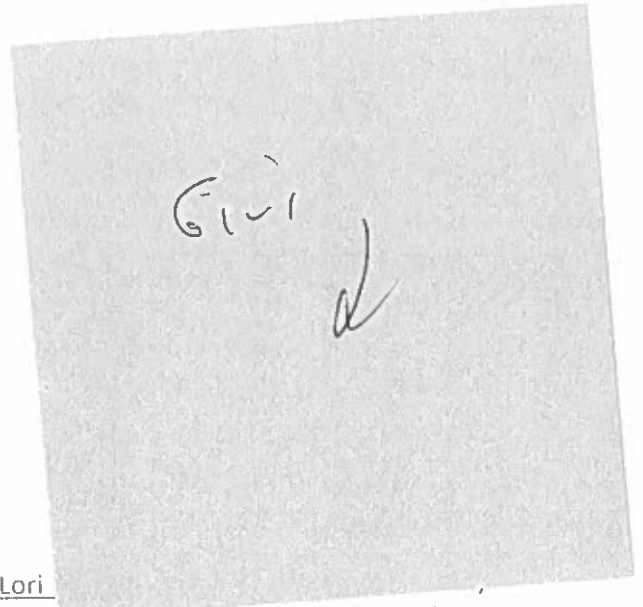
Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 18, 2025, at 1:16 PM, Kalo, Ted <Ted_Kalo@cityoflorain.org> wrote:

I do not have any contracts with the City of Sheffield Lake.

From: Beko, Michele <Michele_Beko@cityoflorain.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 18, 2025 11:49 AM
To: Koziura, Joseph <Joe_Koziura@cityoflorain.org>; Carbonaro, Joseph <Joseph_Carbonaro@cityoflorain.org>; Kalo, Ted <Ted_Kalo@cityoflorain.org>
Cc: Strader, John <John_Strader@cityoflorain.org>
Subject: FW: Records Requests for contracts.

Michele T. Beko
Administrative Asst/Office Manager
Lorain Law Director's Office
200 West Erie Avenue, 3rd floor
Lorain, OH 44052
440.204.2250
Michele_beko@cityoflorain.org



From: Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, January 31, 2025 1:05 PM
To: Koziura, Joseph <Joe_Koziura@cityoflorain.org>
Cc: Robert J. Gargas <rjgargas@gmail.com>; Kokoski, Lori <Lori_Rey <Rey_Carrion@cityoflorain.org>; Bradley, Jack <Jack_Bradley@cityoflorain.org>; Riley, Patrick <Patrick_Riley@cityoflorain.org>; Zaleski, Don <Don_Zaleski@cityoflorain.org>; Arredondo, Joel <joel_arredondo@cityoflorain.org>; City Council Mail Group <CityCouncilMailGroup@cityoflorain.org>; Radeff, Rocky <Rocky_Radeff@cityoflorain.org>; Morris, Jacob <Jacob_Morris@cityoflorain.org>; McCann, James - Chief <Jim_McCann@cityoflorain.org>; Harper, Anita <Anita_Harper@cityoflorain.org>; Andrew Geronimo JD <andrew.geronimo@case.edu>; Tom Niewulis <tniewulis@ncdcs.com>; Mike Mason <Mike.Mason@woio.com>; Brad Dicken <BDicken@chroniclet.com>; Brian Ames <bmames00@gmail.com>; Carissa Woytach <cwoytach@chroniclet.com>; VEK6173@aol.com; Natalio Rodriquez <natalio@centurytel.net>; Jackie Conrad <botanist62@hotmail.com>; Kathryn Kennedy <kathrynkennedy627@gmail.com>; Kirsten Hill <kirsten@kirstenhill.com>; Monica D. Pluta <Monica.Pluta@lcprosecutor.org>; Craig Snodgrass <auditor@loraincounty.com>; David J Moore <dmoore@loraincounty.us>; jridell@loraincounty.us;

mgallagher@loraincounty.us; Michael Scherach <mjscherach.law@centurytel.net>; Mike Doran <mikedoran@mikedoran.com>; Mike Brosky@fflorain.bank; Dennis Flores <dennisforlorain@gmail.com>; Linda Rivera <nrivera25594@gmail.com>; Denise Wilms <denisewilms@aol.com>; Jim Renacci <jrenacci@gmail.com>; Jeanne Petty <jeanne_810@yahoo.com>; sandemeilander@yahoo.com; David Yost AG <AGOCARES@ohioago.gov>

Subject: Re: Records Requests for contracts.

External sender <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>

Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

What about contracts with the municipal court? In recent budget talk's Sheffield Lake received or made payments to the city of Lorain for something? What's that? Do you have an agreement for the municipal court and Sheffield lake, or do they have their own? How does that work?

Aaron Christopher Knapp, LSW, CDCA(p), BSSW

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On Jan 31, 2025, at 10:14, Koziura, Joseph <Joe_Koziura@cityoflorain.org> wrote:

To all concerned,

The following items are the only contracts that this office is aware of, at this time, concerning the cities of Lorain and Sheffield Lake.

Mutual Aide for Safety Forces

Water Pollution Control (Sewage Services)

Regards,

Joe

From: Robert J. Gargas <rjgargas@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, January 28, 2025 4:25 PM

To: Koziura, Joseph <Joe_Koziura@cityoflorain.org>; Kokoski, Lori <Lori_Kokoski@cityoflorain.org>; Carrion, Rey <Rey_Carrion@cityoflorain.org>; Bradley, Jack <Jack_Bradley@cityoflorain.org>; Riley, Patrick <Patrick_Riley@cityoflorain.org>; Zaleski, Don <Don_Zaleski@cityoflorain.org>; Arredondo, Joel

<joel_arredondo@cityoflorain.org>; City Council Mail Group
<CityCouncilMailGroup@cityoflorain.org>; Radeff, Rocky
<Rocky_Radeff@cityoflorain.org>; Morris, Jacob <Jacob_Morris@cityoflorain.org>;
McCann, James - Chief <Jim_McCann@cityoflorain.org>
Cc: Harper, Anita <Anita_Harper@cityoflorain.org>; Andrew Geronimo JD
<andrew.geronimo@case.edu>; Robert J Gargasz <rjgargasz@gmail.com>; Aaron Knapp
<a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>; Tom Niewulis <tniewulis@ncdcs.com>; Mike Mason
<Mike.Mason@woio.com>; Brad Dicken <BDicken@chroniclet.com>; Brian Ames
<bmames00@gmail.com>; Carissa Woytach <cwoytach@chroniclet.com>;
VEK6173@aol.com; Natalio Rodriquez <natalio@centurytel.net>; Jackie Conrad
<botanist62@hotmail.com>; Kathryn Kennedy <kathrynkennedy627@gmail.com>;
Kirsten Hill <kirsten@kirstenhill.com>; Monica D. Pluta
<Monica.Pluta@lcprosecutor.org>; Craig Snodgrass <auditor@loraincounty.com>; David
J Moore <DMoore@loraincounty.us>; jriddell@loraincounty.us;
mgallagher@loraincounty.us; Michael Scherach <mjscherach.law@centurytel.net>;
Mike Doran <mikedoran@mikedoran.com>; Mike Brosky@fflorain.bank; Dennis Flores
<dennisforlorain@gmail.com>; Linda Rivera <nrivera25594@gmail.com>; Denise Wilms
<denisewilms@aol.com>; Jim Renacci <jrenacci@gmail.com>; Jeanne Petty
<jeanne_810@yahoo.com>; sandemeilander@yahoo.com; David Yost AG
<AGOCARES@ohioago.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Records Requests for contracts.

External sender <rjgargasz@gmail.com>

Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

ALL

Garon had requested city contracts Lorain has with Sheffield Lake, Ohio, service and monetary contracts lists.

Per 149.43 or any ORC that requires the public records to be made public when asked for.

As you are or may be a custodian of such records please provide them as requested by Mr. Petty.

The response provided by the Law Department is not adequate as it should have been referred to the appropriate custodian of the appropriate records.

The service director and auditor should each be a repository of such public records, correct?

Please respond to Mr. Petty.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Garon Petty <garonpetty@roadrunner.com>
Date: January 28, 2025 at 3:38:00 PM EST
To: Lindsay Carr <Lindsay.Carr@ohioago.gov>, lcp@lcprosecutor.org, NortheastRegion@ohioauditor.gov
Cc: "Harper, Anita" <Anita_Harper@cityoflorain.org>, "Andrew Geronimo, JD" <andrew.geronimo@case.edu>, Robert J Gargasz <rjgargasz@gmail.com>, Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>, Tom Niewulis <tniewulis@ncdcs.com>, Mike Mason <Mike.Mason@woio.com>, Brad Dicken <BDicken@chroniclet.com>, Brian Ames <bmames00@gmail.com>, Carissa Woytach <cwoytach@chroniclet.com>, VEK6173@aol.com, Natalio Rodriguez <natalio@centurytel.net>, Jackie Conrad <botanist62@hotmail.com>, Kathryn Kennedy <kathrynkennedy627@gmail.com>, Kirsten Hill <kirsten@kirstenhill.com>, "Monica D. Pluta" <Monica.Pluta@lcprosecutor.org>, Craig Snodgrass <auditor@loraincounty.com>, David J Moore <DMoore@loraincounty.us>, jriddell@loraincounty.us, mgallagher@loraincounty.us, Michael Scherach <mjscherach.law@centurytel.net>, Mike Doran <mikedoran@mikedoran.com>, Mike Brosky@fflorain.bank, Dennis Flores <dennisforlorain@gmail.com>, Linda Rivera <nrivera25594@gmail.com>, Denise Wilms <denisewilms@aol.com>, Jim Renacci <jrenacci@gmail.com>, jeanne Petty <jeanne_810@yahoo.com>, sandemeilander@yahoo.com, David Yost AG <AGOCARES@ohioago.gov>
Subject: Records Requests for contracts.

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Per 149.43 or any ORC that requires the public records to be made public when asked for.

Thank You

Garon Petty January 17, 2025

"Mr. Petty,

Please be informed that this office is not the keeper of any documents which constitute "a list of all contracts the City of Lorain has with the City of Sheffield Lake, Ohio and monetary contracts lists." You may wish to contact the Utilities Dept.

Law Director Riley" January 27, 2025

Help us in Lorain, Ohio please,
Garon Petty

Beko, Michele

From: Beko, Michele <Michele_Beko@cityoflorain.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 4, 2025 2:32 PM
To: Comer,David
Subject: RE: All electronic communications

Thank you I will let Don know - Michele

-----Original Message-----

From: Comer,David <DComer@CityofLorain.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 4, 2025 2:21 PM
To: Beko, Michele <Michele_Beko@cityoflorain.org>
Subject: RE: All electronic communications

That is way too broad of a search.....
He needs to have a more specific criteria.

-----Original Message-----

From: Beko, Michele <Michele_Beko@cityoflorain.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 4, 2025 2:10 PM
To: Comer,David <DComer@CityofLorain.org>
Subject: FW: All electronic communications

Dave,

Per Don Zaleski can you please let me know what you find with regard to this request? Thank you - Michele

Michele T. Beko
Administrative Asst/Office Manager
Lorain Law Director's Office
200 West Erie Avenue, 3rd floor
Lorain, OH 44052
440.204.2250
Michele_beko@cityoflorain.org

-----Original Message-----

From: Garon Petty <garonpetty@roadrunner.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 1, 2025 10:49 AM
To: Lorain PD Records Request <LPDRecordsRequest@cityoflorain.org>; Kokoski, Lori <Lori_Kokoski@cityoflorain.org>; Riley, Patrick <Patrick_Riley@cityoflorain.org>; McCann, James - Chief <Jim_McCann@cityoflorain.org>; Gelenius, Kyle <Kyle_Gelenius@cityoflorain.org>; Kalo, Ted <Ted_Kalo@cityoflorain.org>; Bradley, Jack <Jack_Bradley@cityoflorain.org>; City Council Mail Group <CityCouncilMailGroup@cityoflorain.org>; Harper, Anita <Anita_Harper@cityoflorain.org>

Cc: Robert J Gargasz <rjgargasz@gmail.com>; Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>; Beko, Michele <Michele_Beko@cityoflorain.org>; Michael Scherach <mjscherach.law@centurytel.net>; Lindsay Carr <Lindsay.Carr@OhioAGO.gov>; lcp@lcprosecutor.org; Andrew Geronimo, JD <andrew.geronimo@case.edu>
Subject: All electronic communications

External sender <garonpetty@roadrunner.com>

Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

To whom it may concern or has the Electronic Communications,

Please send me all electronic communications, sent and received by Chief McCann, the SS Director Carrion, Pat Riley Law Director, Mayor Bradley, Ric Soto, and any Lorain Police Officer that mention Officers Middlebrooks and Miguel Baez From January 2023 until the present time, Per 149.43 Ohio Revised Code.

Thank You,
Garon Petty

Beko, Michele

From: Beko, Michele <Michele_Beko@cityoflorain.org>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 9:54 AM
To: Harper, Anita
Subject: FW: Item C of the Board of Control

*Rejected per 149.43 A1
ATT client pro*

Michele T. Beko
Administrative Asst/Office Manager
Lorain Law Director's Office
200 West Erie Avenue, 3rd floor
Lorain, OH 44052
440.204.2250
Michele_beko@cityoflorain.org

From: Garon Petty <garonpetty@roadrunner.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 5:33 PM
To: Harper, Anita <Anita_Harper@cityoflorain.org>; Beko, Michele <Michele_Beko@cityoflorain.org>; Riley, Patrick <Patrick_Riley@cityoflorain.org>; Bradley, Jack <Jack_Bradley@cityoflorain.org>; City Council Mail Group <CityCouncilMailGroup@cityoflorain.org>; Kalo, Ted <Ted_Kalo@cityoflorain.org>; Soto, Terri <Terri_Soto@cityoflorain.org>; Dull, Breanna <Breanna_Dull@cityoflorain.org>
Cc: Robert J Gargas <rjgargas@gmail.com>; Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>; Michael Scherach <mjscherach.law@centurytel.net>; Brad Dicken <BDicken@chroniclet.com>; Darryl Tucker <dtucker@morningjournal.com>; Dan Gilles <Dgillescle@gmail.com>; Jackie Conrad <botanist62@hotmail.com>; Dennis Flores <dennisforlorain@gmail.com>; Tom Niewulis <tniewulis@ncdcs.com>; Mike Mason <Mike.Mason@woio.com>; Brian Ames <bmames00@gmail.com>; William Bobel <bobelectric@gmail.com>; mark campolo <vicchismic4486@gmail.com>; lcp@lcprosecutor.org; Lindsay Carr <Lindsay.Carr@OhioAGO.gov>; rebecca kempton <REK5767@aol.com>
Subject: Item C of the Board of Control

External sender <garonpetty@roadrunner.com>

Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

To whoever has the Public Records in Lorain government,

Please send me by 149.43 ORC the Total amount of money paid to Wickens, Herzer and Panza Law firm for services in case # 20cv200713 Lorain Common Pleas, from March of 2020 until the present by the city of Lorain.

Agenda
destinyhosted.com



Thank you ,
Garon Petty

Beko, Michele

From: Beko, Michele <Michele_Beko@cityoflorain.org>
Sent: Thursday, February 13, 2025 11:09 AM
To: Comer, David
Cc: Zaleski, Don
Subject: RE: All electronic communications

*Redacted one 149.43 A1 ✓
ATT client priv*

-----Original Message-----

From: Comer, David <DComer@CityofLorain.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 4, 2025 2:21 PM
To: Beko, Michele <Michele_Beko@cityoflorain.org>
Subject: RE: All electronic communications

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Sent: Tuesday, February 4, 2025 2:10 PM
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Subject: FW: All electronic communications

Dave,

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Michele T. Beko
Administrative Asst/Office Manager
Lorain Law Director's Office
200 West Erie Avenue, 3rd floor
Lorain, OH 44052
440.204.2250
Michele_beko@cityoflorain.org

-----Original Message-----

From: Garon Petty <garonpetty@roadrunner.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 1, 2025 10:49 AM
To: Lorain PD Records Request <LPDRecordsRequest@cityoflorain.org>; Kokoski, Lori <Lori_Kokoski@cityoflorain.org>; Riley, Patrick <Patrick_Riley@cityoflorain.org>; McCann, James - Chief <Jim_McCann@cityoflorain.org>; Gelenius, Kyle <Kyle_Gelenius@cityoflorain.org>; Kalo, Ted <Ted_Kalo@cityoflorain.org>; Bradley, Jack

<Jack_Bradley@cityoflorain.org>; City Council Mail Group <CityCouncilMailGroup@cityoflorain.org>; Harper, Anita <Anita_Harper@cityoflorain.org>

Cc: Robert J Gargasz <rjgargasz@gmail.com>; Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>; Beko, Michele <Michele_Beko@cityoflorain.org>; Michael Scherach <mjscherach.law@centurytel.net>; Lindsay Carr <Lindsay.Carr@OhioAGO.gov>; lcp@lcprosecutor.org; Andrew Geronimo, JD <andrew.geronimo@case.edu>
Subject: All electronic communications

External sender <garonpetty@roadrunner.com>

Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

To whom it may concern or has the Electronic Communications,

Please send me all electronic communications, sent and received by Chief McCann, the SS Director Carrion, Pat Riley Law Director, Mayor Bradley, Ric Soto, and any Lorain Police Officer that mention Officers Middlebrooks and Miguel Baez From January 2023 until the present time, Per 149.43 Ohio Revised Code.

Thank You,
Garon Petty

Beko, Michele

From: Comer,David <DComer@CityofLorain.org>
Sent: Wednesday, February 26, 2025 10:53 AM
To: Beko, Michele
Subject: Re: Public Records needed from Lorain and Sheffield Lake

*Re: Public
Records
149-40 A 10
Attorney client priv*

From: Beko, Michele <Michele_Beko@cityoflorain.org>
Sent: Wednesday, February 26, 2025 9:51 AM
To: Comer,David <DComer@CityofLorain.org>
Subject: FW: Public Records needed from Lorain and Sheffield Lake

Dave - are you compiling these emails that have been requested? Michele

Michele T. Beko
Administrative Asst/Office Manager
Lorain Law Director's Office
200 West Erie Avenue, 3rd floor
Lorain, OH 44052
440.204.2250
Michele_beko@cityoflorain.org

-----Original Message-----

From: Garon Petty <garonpetty@roadrunner.com>
Sent: Monday, February 24, 2025 1:16 PM
To: Comer,David <DComer@CityofLorain.org>; Kalo, Ted <Ted_Kalo@cityoflorain.org>; Riley, Patrick <Patrick_Riley@cityoflorain.org>; LaVeck, Joseph <Joseph_LaVeck@cityoflorain.org>; Zaleski, Don <Don_Zaleski@cityoflorain.org>; Santiago, Mallory <mallory_holmes@cityoflorain.org>; rradeff@sheffieldlake.net; City Council Mail Group <CityCouncilMailGroup@cityoflorain.org>; Koziura, Joseph <Joe_Koziura@cityoflorain.org>; Soto, Rick <Rick_Soto@cityoflorain.org>; Bradley, Jack <Jack_Bradley@cityoflorain.org>; Radeff, Rocky <Rocky_Radeff@cityoflorain.org>; clerkofcourts@sheffieldlake.net; David Graves <dgraves@sheffieldlake.net>; Gelenius, Kyle <Kyle_Gelenius@cityoflorain.org>; McCann, James - Chief <Jim_McCann@cityoflorain.org>; Morris, Jacob <Jacob_Morris@cityoflorain.org>
Cc: David Yost AG <AGOCARES@ohioago.gov>; Lindsay Carr <Lindsay.Carr@OhioAGO.gov>; clandestinecanary <clandestinecanary@proton.me>; ethics@ethics.ohio.gov; Jonathan.Schuppe@nbcuni.com; Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>; Andrew Geronimo, JD <andrew.geronimo@case.edu>; Brian Ames <bmames00@gmail.com>; Robert J Gargasz <rjgargasz@gmail.com>; Michael Scherach

<mjscherach.law@centurytel.net>; Brad Dicken <BDicken@chroniclet.com>; Clevescene
<news@clevescene.com>; Mike Mason <Mike.Mason@woio.com>
Subject: Public Records needed from Lorain and Sheffield Lake

External sender <garonpetty@roadrunner.com>

Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

To ALL Lorain and Sheffield Lake Officials please send me per 149.43 ALL electronic communications between any Lorain official receiving this email, and the Sheffield Lake Mayor/Safety Director and the Law Director of Sheffield Lake, Ohio from Jan 1, 2024 until the present.

Please respond,
Garon Petty



Beko, Michele

From: Comer, David <DComer@CityofLorain.org>
Sent: Wednesday, March 5, 2025 9:44 AM
To: Beko, Michele
Subject: RE: Public Records needed from Lorain and Sheffield Lake

*Re-submitted
one 149-43 ALV
ATF client priv*

-----Original Message-----

From: Beko, Michele <Michele_Beko@cityoflorain.org>
Sent: Wednesday, March 5, 2025 9:42 AM
To: Comer, David <DComer@CityofLorain.org>
Cc: Zaleski, Don <Don_Zaleski@cityoflorain.org>
Subject: FW: Public Records needed from Lorain and Sheffield Lake

Dave,

Are you working on this request? Michele

Michele T. Beko
Administrative Asst/Office Manager
Lorain Law Director's Office
200 West Erie Avenue, 3rd floor
Lorain, OH 44052
440.204.2250
Michele_beko@cityoflorain.org

-----Original Message-----

From: Garon Petty <garonpetty@roadrunner.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 5, 2025 8:59 AM
To: Comer, David <DComer@CityofLorain.org>; Kalo, Ted <Ted_Kalo@cityoflorain.org>; Riley, Patrick <Patrick_Riley@cityoflorain.org>; LaVeck, Joseph <Joseph_LaVeck@cityoflorain.org>; Zaleski, Don <Don_Zaleski@cityoflorain.org>; Santiago, Mallory <mallory_holmes@cityoflorain.org>; Rocky Radeff <rradeff@sheffieldlake.net>; City Council Mail Group <CityCouncilMailGroup@cityoflorain.org>; Koziura, Joseph <Joe_Koziura@cityoflorain.org>; Soto, Rick <Rick_Soto@cityoflorain.org>; Bradley, Jack <Jack_Bradley@cityoflorain.org>; Radeff, Rocky <Rocky_Radeff@cityoflorain.org>; clerkofcourts@sheffieldlake.net; David Graves <dgraves@sheffieldlake.net>; Gelenius, Kyle <Kyle_Gelenius@cityoflorain.org>; McCann, James - Chief <Jim_McCann@cityoflorain.org>; Morris, Jacob <Jacob_Morris@cityoflorain.org>; David Yost AG <AGOCARES@ohioago.gov>; Dull, Breanna <Breanna_Dull@cityoflorain.org>
Cc: David Yost AG <AGOCARES@ohioago.gov>; Lindsay Carr <Lindsay.Carr@OhioAGO.gov>; clandestinecanary <clandestinecanary@proton.me>; ethics@ethics.ohio.gov; Jonathan.Schuppe@nbcuni.com; Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>; Andrew Geronimo, JD <andrew.geronimo@case.edu>; Brian Ames <bmames00@gmail.com>; Robert J Gargas <rjgargas@gmail.com>; Michael Scherach <mjscherach.law@centurytel.net>; Brad Dicken <BDicken@chroniclet.com>; Clevescene <news@clevescene.com>; Mike Mason <Mike.Mason@woio.com>
Subject: Re: Public Records needed from Lorain and Sheffield Lake

Beko, Michele

From: Beko, Michele <Michele_Beko@cityoflorain.org>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 9:54 AM
To: Harper, Anita
Subject: FW: Item C of the Board of Control

Re: 149.43 ORC
ATTN client prw

Michel

Michele T. Beko
Administrative Asst/Office Manager
Lorain Law Director's Office
200 West Erie Avenue, 3rd floor
Lorain, OH 44052
440.204.2250
Michele_beko@cityoflorain.org

From: Garon Petty <garonpetty@roadrunner.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 5:33 PM
To: Harper, Anita <Anita_Harper@cityoflorain.org>; Beko, Michele <Michele_Beko@cityoflorain.org>; Riley, Patrick <Patrick_Riley@cityoflorain.org>; Bradley, Jack <Jack_Bradley@cityoflorain.org>; City Council Mail Group <CityCouncilMailGroup@cityoflorain.org>; Kalo, Ted <Ted_Kalo@cityoflorain.org>; Soto, Terri <Terri_Soto@cityoflorain.org>; Dull, Breanna <Breanna_Dull@cityoflorain.org>
Cc: Robert J Gargasz <rjgargasz@gmail.com>; Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>; Michael Scherach <mjscherach.law@centurytel.net>; Brad Dicken <BDicken@chroniclet.com>; Darryl Tucker <dtucker@morningjournal.com>; Dan Gilles <Dgillescle@gmail.com>; Jackie Conrad <botanist62@hotmail.com>; Dennis Flores <dennisforlorain@gmail.com>; Tom Niewulis <tniewulis@ncdcs.com>; Mike Mason <Mike.Mason@woio.com>; Brian Ames <bmames00@gmail.com>; William Bobel <bobelectric@gmail.com>; mark campolo <vicchrismic4486@gmail.com>; lcp@lcprosecutor.org; Lindsay Carr <Lindsay.Carr@OhioAGO.gov>; rebecca kempton <REK5767@aol.com>
Subject: Item C of the Board of Control

External sender <garonpetty@roadrunner.com>

Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

To whoever has the Public Records in Lorain government,

Please send me by 149.43 ORC the Total amount of money paid to Wickens, Herzer and Panza Law firm for services in case # 20cv200713 Lorain Common Pleas, from March of 2020 until the present by the city of Lorain.

Agenda
destinyhosted.com

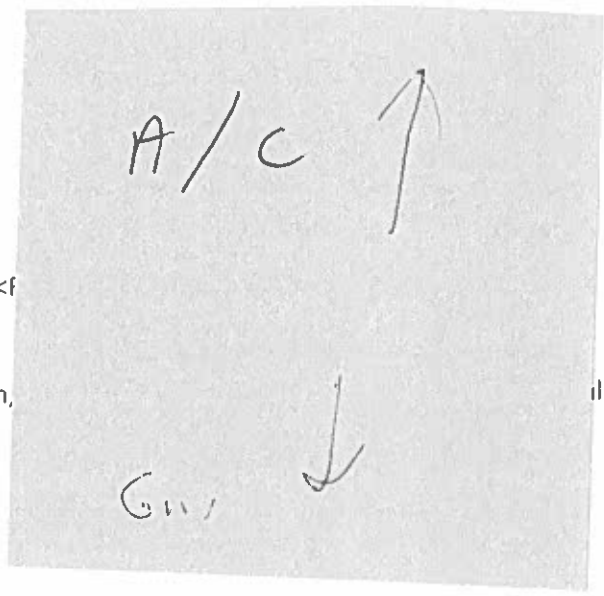


Thank you ,
Garon Petty

Beko, Michele

From: Beko, Michele <Michele_Beko@cityoflorain.org>
Sent: Tuesday, July 22, 2025 11:05 AM
To: SOPHIA_WILLIAMS1@GBTPA.COM
Subject: FW: Final Demand for Relief – Whistleblower Retaliation, Civil-Rights Abuses & Tortious Interference Final One-Time Settlement Offer

*Rejected
ORC 149-43 A1V
ATTY client priv*



From: LaVeck, Joseph <Joseph_LaVeck@cityoflorain.org>
Sent: Monday, July 14, 2025 9:53 AM
To: Bradley, Jack <Jack_Bradley@cityoflorain.org>; Carrion, Rey <Rick_Soto@cityoflorain.org>
Cc: Beko, Michele <Michele_Beko@cityoflorain.org>
Subject: FW: Final Demand for Relief – Whistleblower Retaliation, Civil-Rights Abuses & Tortious Interference Final One-Time Settlement Offer

FYI

Joseph T. LaVeck, Esq
Chief Asst. Law Director & Police Legal Advisor
200 W. Erie Avenue, 3rd Floor
Lorain, Ohio 44052
joseph_laveck@cityoflorain.org

From: Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, July 11, 2025 10:20 AM
To: LaVeck, Joseph <Joseph_LaVeck@cityoflorain.org>
Subject: Re: Final Demand for Relief – Whistleblower Retaliation, Civil-Rights Abuses & Tortious Interference Final One-Time Settlement Offer

External sender <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>
Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

Dear Mr. LaVeck, Mayor Bradley, and All Concerned Parties,

This message serves as a final follow-up regarding my pending claim and the City of Lorain's corresponding legal obligations. As previously stated, tomorrow marks the deadline for a substantive response.

To date, I have received only confirmation that the matter was forwarded to the City's insurer. While I acknowledge that step, it does not satisfy the City's independent obligations under Ohio law and federal civil rights statutes—including the duty to engage in meaningful evaluation and timely response.

Should this deadline pass without further action or engagement, I will proceed accordingly and escalate the matter through all appropriate legal, administrative, and public channels.

This notice is provided in good faith to offer the City a final opportunity to respond prior to that next phase. Again, this is not a request for a favor, but a formal request for remedy under clearly established legal protections.

Respectfully,

Aaron C. Knapp, BSSW, LSW, CDCA

Disabled Veteran | Social Worker | Whistleblower
a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com | (216) 659-9899

Aaron Christopher Knapp, LSW, CDCA(p), BSSW

NOTICE: THIS ELECTRONIC MESSAGE TRANSMISSION CONTAINS INFORMATION WHICH MAY BE CONFIDENTIAL OR PRIVILEGED. THE INFORMATION IS INTENDED ONLY FOR THE USE OF THE INDIVIDUAL(S) OR ENTITY(IES) NAMED ABOVE. IF YOU ARE NOT THE INTENDED RECIPIENT, PLEASE BE AWARE THAT ANY DISCLOSURE, COPYING, DISTRIBUTION, OR USE OF THE CONTENTS OF THIS INFORMATION IS PROHIBITED. IF YOU HAVE RECEIVED THIS ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION IN ERROR, PLEASE IMMEDIATELY NOTIFY THE SENDER AND DELETE THE COPY YOU RECEIVED.

On Jul 7, 2025, at 15:38, LaVeck, Joseph <Joseph_LaVeck@cityoflorain.org> wrote:

Mr. Knapp:

Your demand has been forwarded to the City's insurer and a claim has been made. Someone will be in contact with you once reviewed.

Thank you.

Best Regards,

Joseph T. LaVeck, Esq

Chief Asst. Law Director & Police Legal Advisor

200 W. Erie Avenue, 3rd Floor

Lorain, Ohio 44052

joseph_laveck@cityoflorain.org

From: Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 6, 2025 12:15 PM
To: Bradley, Jack <Jack_Bradley@cityoflorain.org>
Cc: Robert J. Gargas <rjgargas@gmail.com>; Carrion, Rey <Rey_Carrion@cityoflorain.org>; Failing, Mike <Mike_Failing@cityoflorain.org>; lcp@lcprosecutor.org; trothm@wingspan.org; City Council Mail Group <CityCouncilMailGroup@cityoflorain.org>; Mike Mason <Mike.Mason@woio.com>; Jonathan Schuppe <Jonathan.Schuppe@nbcuni.com>; Noelle Williams <Noelle.Williams@woio.com>; Lorain Daily <erik@loraindaily.com>; David Yost AG <AGOCARES@ohioago.gov>; ethics@ethics.ohio.gov; paul.nick@ethics.ohio.gov; tips@wews.com; Sherry Glass <Sherry.Glass@lcft.org>; Sheriff Jack Hall <jhall@loraincountysheriff.com>; senseicobrakai@protonmail.com; Major Steven Scharschmidt <SScharschmidt@lctdf.com>; Mike Massie <MMASSIE@lctdf.com>; Clevescene News <news@clevescene.com>; LaVeck, Joseph <Joseph_LaVeck@cityoflorain.org>; lbischoff@gannett.com; jonathan.walsh@wews.com; Scott.Noll@wews.com; JCaniglia@plaind.com
Subject: Re: Final Demand for Relief – Whistleblower Retaliation, Civil-Rights Abuses & Tortious Interference Final One-Time Settlement Offer

External sender <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>

Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

Mayor Bradley and ALL Concerned Parties,

This will serve as a formal reminder of the City of Lorain's continuing legal obligations in matters involving insurance claims, civil rights violations, and retaliation allegations.

While I acknowledge that the City may be coordinating with legal counsel or insurers, such coordination does not negate the City's independent obligations under state and federal law. These include, but are not limited to:

- **Timely Reporting & Good-Faith Review:** As you are aware, most municipal insurance policies require prompt notification of claims and good-faith consideration of settlement offers—especially those within policy limits—to protect the insured from excess judgments. Undue delay or categorical denials may constitute bad-faith conduct.

- Cooperation Obligations: The City, as the insured, has an ongoing duty to cooperate with its insurance carrier and to evaluate reasonable offers, rather than summarily reject them or disregard documented evidence.
- Constitutional & Statutory Duties: My right to petition public officials on matters of public concern—including civil rights violations, whistleblower retaliation, and disability discrimination—is firmly protected under the First Amendment and federal whistleblower statutes. Attempting to insulate public officials from direct accountability through blanket denials or silence does not comport with constitutional norms or public service ethics.
- Ohio-Specific Statutes: Under Ohio law, designated officials—such as a Director of Law—may hold settlement authority within certain thresholds. However, refusal to engage or document a legitimate settlement negotiation may raise serious concerns under both public accountability laws and prohibited insurance practices outlined by the Ohio Department of Insurance.

To be clear: I am not asking for a favor. I am documenting an official request for remedy that remains viable but is time-sensitive. If the City believes this matter should be handled exclusively through counsel, I am fully prepared to proceed accordingly, but I will not accept silence, evasion, or procedural deflection as a substitute for substantive response.

Govern yourselves accordingly.

Respectfully,

Aaron C. Knapp, BSSW, LSW, CDCA

Disabled Veteran | Social Worker | Whistleblower

a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com | (216) 659-9899

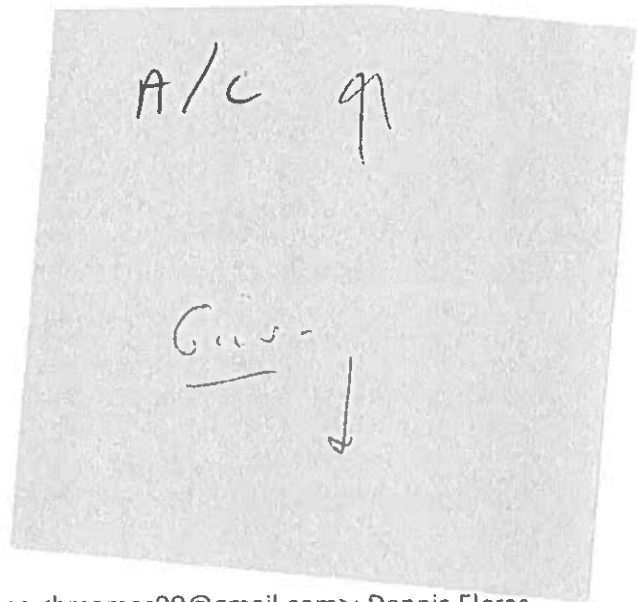
Beko, Michele

From: Beko, Michele <Michele_Beko@cityoflorain.org>
Sent: Thursday, August 14, 2025 2:23 PM
To: pward@dooleygembala.com
Subject: FW: State of Ohio vs. Petty (224CRB02378)
Attachments: Petty Motion to Dismiss part #2.pdf; Time stamped copy of first page.pdf

Michele

Michele T. Beko
Administrative Asst/Office Manager
Lorain Law Director's Office
200 West Erie Avenue, 3rd floor
Lorain, OH 44052
440.204.2250
Michele_beko@cityoflorain.org

Rebulet
one 149-43 ALW
ATF client priv



From: Garon Petty <garonpetty@roadrunner.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 14, 2025 1:47 PM
To: Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com>; Brian Ames <bmames00@gmail.com>; Dennis Flores <dennisforlorain@gmail.com>; City Council Mail Group <CityCouncilMailGroup@cityoflorain.org>; Jack Hall <jack.hall@hallforsheriff.com>; lcp@lcprosecutor.org; Tony Cillo <antcillo.cill@gmail.com>; Bradley, Jack <Jack_Bradley@cityoflorain.org>; Sheriff Jack Hall <jhall@loraincountysheriff.com>; Elsebeth Baumgartner <baumgartner.elsebeth@yahoo.com>; Jonathan.Schuppe@nbcuni.com; Mike Mason <Mike.Mason@woio.com>; Major Scharschmidt <SScharschmidt@lcdtf.com>; Brad Dicken <BDicken@chroniclet.com>; Institute for Justice <ifj@ij.org>; InvestigatorTips@wews.com; Greg Lukianoff <greg_lukianoff@thefire.org>; Michael Scherach <mjscherach.law@centurytel.net>; Sensai Cobra <Justice4LorainCounty@proton.me>; Stephanie Jablonsky <stephanie.jablonsky@thefire.org>; David Yost AG <AGOCARES@ohioago.gov>; Lindsay Carr <Lindsay.Carr@OhioAGO.gov>; Nathan Manning <manning@ohiosenate.gov>; Jim Renacci <jrenacci@gmail.com>; Morris, Jacob <Jacob_Morris@cityoflorain.org>; Riley, Patrick <Patrick_Riley@cityoflorain.org>; Partin, Maggie <Maggie_Partin@cityoflorain.org>; Dull, Breanna <Breanna_Dull@cityoflorain.org>; LorainDaily <erik@loraindaily.com>; LorainNAACP@gmail.com; Tori Middlebrooks <tmiddlebrooks4@gmail.com>; Mike.Brosky@fflorain.bank; Denise Wilms <denisewilms@aol.com>; Zachary Simonoff <zsimonoff@simonofflaw.com>; Beko, Michele <Michele_Beko@cityoflorain.org>; leigh.pruqh@lcprosecutor.org; Carrion, Rey <Rey_Carrion@cityoflorain.org>; NortheastRegion@ohioauditor.gov; Mike Doran <mikedoran@mikedoran.com>; rebecca kempton <REK5767@aol.com>; VEK6173@aol.com; Natalio Rodriquez <natalio@centurytel.net>; Darryl Tucker <dtucker@morningjournal.com>; Mike Massie <MMASSIE@LCDTF.COM>; Mike Witte <mewbrw57@gmail.com>; Harry Boomer <hboomer@woio.com>; Harper, Anita <Anita_Harper@cityoflorain.org>; Andrew Geronimo, JD <andrew.geronimo@case.edu>; Julie Wallace <JWallace@chroniclet.com>; Kalo, Ted <Ted_Kalo@cityoflorain.org>; Monica D. Pluta <monica.pluta@lcprosecutor.org>; William Bobel <bobelectric@gmail.com>; ethics@ethics.ohio.gov; Fox 8 <tips@fox8.com>; Michael Fitzpatrick <fitzbits91@gmail.com>; Walsh, Jonathan <jonathan.walsh@wews.com>
Subject: Fwd: State of Ohio vs. Petty (224CRB02378)

Warning: Unusual link

This message contains an unusual link, which may lead to a malicious site. Confirm the message is safe before clicking any links.

FYI our motion to dismiss my case.

Begin forwarded message:

From: Garon Petty <onelung2014@gmail.com>
Subject: Fwd: State of Ohio vs. Petty (224CRB02378)
Date: August 14, 2025 at 1:21:26 PM EDT
To: Garon Petty <garonpetty@roadrunner.com>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Robert J. Gargasz <rjgargasz@gmail.com>
Date: Thu, Aug 14, 2025 at 12:44 PM
Subject: State of Ohio vs. Petty (224CRB02378)
To: Patrick Ward <pward@dooleygembala.com>
Cc: James Kimbler <retiredjudgekimbler@gmail.com>, Robert J. Gargasz <rjgargasz@gmail.com>

Petty Motion to Dismiss part #1.pdf

The attached Motion to Dismiss has been filed with the Lorain Municipal Court today.

--

Robert J. Gargasz, Esq.
Robert J. Gargasz Co., L.P.A.
1670 Cooper Foster Park Road
Lorain, Ohio 44053
(440) 960-1670
(440) 960-1754 Facsimile
rjgargasz@gmail.com

Beko, Michele

From: Zaleski, Don <Don_Zaleski@cityoflorain.org>
Sent: Thursday, June 26, 2025 11:58 AM
To: Dull, Breanna
Subject: RE: 2025-00525PQ Court of Claims Public Record Request

*Re: 2025-00525PQ
ORE 149,40 AIV
ATT client priv*

From: Dull, Breanna <Breanna_Dull@cityoflorain.org>
Sent: Thursday, June 26, 2025 9:15 AM
To: Zaleski, Don <Don_Zaleski@cityoflorain.org>
Subject: FW: 2025-00525PQ Court of Claims Public Record Request

*A/c ↑
Giv
↓*

From: Kelly Wahlers <kwahlers@ohiocourtclaims.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2025 9:50 AM
To: Dull, Breanna <Breanna_Dull@cityoflorain.org>
Subject: RE: 2025-00525PQ Court of Claims Public Record Request

Warning: Unusual sender <kwahlers@ohiocourtclaims.gov>
You don't usually receive emails from this address. Make sure you know who you are receiving emails from.

Please note that I incorrectly cited the case number in the caption as **00524PQ**, NOT 2025-00525PQ. Sorry about that!

From: Kelly Wahlers
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2025 9:46 AM
To: breanna_dull@cityoflorain.org
Subject: 2025-00525PQ Court of Claims Public Record Request

Good afternoon,

My name is Kelly Wahlers, and I am the Court of Claims Staff Attorney assigned to triage the request by Aaron Knapp in 2025-00524PQ. Please let me know your current understanding of the request, whether anything has been provided to the requestor, and your stance on the request so that I can determine how this case should move forward.

Thank you,

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On Aug 22, 2025, at 06:04, Aaron Knapp <a4xbeaverman@yahoo.com> wrote:

To the City of Lorain and the Office of the Safety-Service Director:

It has come to my attention—and has been personally confirmed—that individuals, including members of the press, have been denied access to City Hall and its offices without an appointment or for failing to present identification. This includes the recent turning away of a journalist from the Safety-Service Director's office.

Let me be clear: No law—federal, state, or local—requires members of the public to present identification simply to enter a public building or access publicly funded services during regular business hours.

Constitutional Framework

The Fourth Amendment of the United States Constitution protects individuals from unreasonable searches and seizures, including compelled identification without lawful cause. Demanding identification as a condition of entry—absent reasonable suspicion, probable cause, or a legally adopted ordinance—is constitutionally suspect.

The Fourteenth Amendment, through its Equal Protection and Due Process Clauses, guarantees that all citizens have equal access to government services and protections without arbitrary or discriminatory barriers.

Additionally, public buildings such as City Hall are considered limited public forums. Access cannot be denied without:

- A clear, narrowly tailored policy;
- Legitimate governmental interest (such as security);
- Equal and transparent enforcement.

Policies that deny access based on lack of ID or appointment—especially without legal authorization or posted notice—are likely unconstitutional.

Sunshine Laws and Transparency Obligations

Ohio's Sunshine Laws require that public records and public offices remain accessible to the people. Blocking access to government officials or facilities without valid cause violates the spirit and possibly the letter of these statutes (Ohio Revised Code §§ 121.22 and 149.43).

Notice of Audit

As such, I—alongside other members of the public and press—will be conducting independent audits of the City of Lorain's entry policies and procedures to ensure that:

- No unconstitutional identification or appointment requirements are being enforced;
- No public services are being unlawfully withheld from individuals without ID;
- No retaliation is directed toward those exercising constitutional rights, including First Amendment-protected recording of public officials.

These audits are peaceful, lawful, and protected activity. Any effort to interfere with or suppress them could lead to civil liability under 42 U.S.C. § 1983 for deprivation of rights under color of law.

Requested Action

I am requesting, in writing:

1. A copy of the City's written policy (if one exists) that authorizes requiring ID or appointments for public access;
2. Clarification as to whether such a policy was lawfully adopted by ordinance, or implemented without public input;
3. Immediate cessation of any unconstitutional restrictions to public access, and assurance that press and civilians will not be denied entry or retaliated against.

I appreciate your prompt attention to this matter and trust you will act in accordance with your oath to uphold the Constitution.

Sincerely

Aaron Christopher Knapp, LSW, CDCA(p), BSSW

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